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### YOUNG CANADA

SHERIDAN MALL - PICKERING  
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REFUNDS AND EXCHANGES CHEERFULLY MADE AT ALL TIMES



## The care of flowering plants

Flowering house plants can be killed by too much attention! Tender loving care must be kept within bounds, so it is important to know something about the plants' individual needs for both day and night temperature, light, moisture and humidity. Most plants can manage to live in an unfavorable environment for a while. When they are given a special place in the home which is compatible to their needs, they will give more pleasure much longer.

### LIGHT:

Most flowering plants require some sunlight, preferably mid-day or afternoon sun. Diffused light or indirect light preferred by some varieties (as noted on succeeding pages) can be controlled with sheer draperies, or by changing the location.

### TEMPERATURE:

Most flowering plants need 10 degrees F lower at night than during the day. When this is not provided, the food supplies in the plant will be used prematurely, shortening the useful life of the blossoms. The AFRICAN VIOLET is the principal exception.

### WATER:

Overwatering or letting a plant stand in water is to invite trouble. After the individual water

requirements of a plant are met (these are noted in succeeding pages with individual species), the saucer in which the pot sets should be emptied of excess water. Saturated soil causes leaves to turn yellow and fall and more seriously, may cause roots to rot.

Frequency of watering depends on the plant, room temperature, air circulation and type of pot. Clay pots lose moisture through the sides and need more frequent watering than plastic or glazed pots. Pots without drainage are hard to water, and must never be overwatered. Soil should always be dry to the touch in any container without drainage before applying additional water.

By  
**ANTHONY STOLK**  
of PICKERING  
FLOWER SHOP

Foliage, especially ORCHIDS, FERNS and GARDENIAS, can be moistened with a syringe or mister. Commercial misters, now available or commonly used sprinklers used for dampening clothes, do this job effectively. Hard (alkaline) water may leave a white residue on the foliage.

### HUMIDITY:

Moisture in the atmosphere (humidity) is needed by most plants and can be provided by:

a. Humidifiers in the home.

b. Placing plants on a gravel-filled tray where the water level is just below the bottom of the pot. Gravel in the tray makes it unnecessary to empty excess water, which then becomes a source of humidity.

c. Pans of water can be hung behind upright-type radiators.

### FERTILIZER:

Feeding flowering house plants should be done on a regular schedule, using a mixture prepared scientifically for house plants. Follow directions on the package to determine the concentration of the fertilizer solution to apply.

Plants must not be fertilized when the soil is dry.

Most plants have a semi-dormant period in the winter and should not be fertilized or watered as much as when in active growth. Overfeeding usually produces excessive leaf growth and fewer blossoms, or may eventually slow growth and injure roots.

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