

Kalanchoe

Sunlight:

Kalanchoes require at least four hours of direct sunlight daily in order to flower profusely and retain their foliage colors. East, west or south exposure is recommended.

Temperature:

Ideal temperatures are a low of 50° at night and up to 85° in the daytime (average home temp. is good).

Water:

Allow the top layer of soil to become dry before watering thoroughly.

Fertilizing:

Feed every two weeks from May until they bloom, and then withhold fertilizer until active growth resumes. Use a high phosphorous water-soluble fertilizer such as 15-30-15, diluted to half strength.

Repotting:

When plants become crowded, repot in well draining commercial potting soil.

To Bloom:

For Christmas, Kalanchoes require at least 14 hours complete darkness and 10 hours of sunshine or artificial light each day from September through early December. After they bloom, cut the stems off below the flowers and just above the first pair of strong leaves.

Propagate:

From stem cuttings in early autumn or from seed, this if sown by early January, will produce blooming plants for Christmas. The other species can be grown from stem or leaf cuttings.