

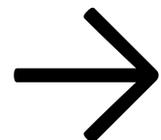
BONSAI CARE INFORMATION SHEET

With proper care, your bonsai will remain healthy, beautiful and miniature for many years to come.

EXPOSURE: Houseplant bonsai can be grown indoors and also outdoors. Nightly lows should be no lower than 5°C for your bonsai to be grown outdoors. Once outside, your bonsai should be positioned where it will receive sufficient sun - morning sun and afternoon shade is best. When nightly lows begin approaching the 5°C mark it is time to bring your houseplant bonsai indoors. The ideal indoor location is in a south facing window. An east or west exposure is second best. Four to six hours of sunlight per day is recommended. –Fukien Tea, Arboricola etc, Weeping figs. Hardy bonsai must be kept outdoors. Over winter they must be protected by placing in an unheated garage as long as they do not freeze. Make sure your bonsai has sufficient moisture over the winter months. Juniper, Pine, Japanese maple, Hinoki Cypress, etc.

WATERING: Water your bonsai when the soil appears dry. You should never allow your bonsai to completely dry out. This may vary with the size pot, type of soil and type of bonsai tree. It is a good idea to use a moisture meter until you get to know the requirements of your bonsai tree. Water should be applied until it begins running out of the holes in the bottom of your pot.

SEE OVER FOR MORE INFORMATION



FERTILIZING

Fertilizing is also necessary if your bonsai is to remain healthy and beautiful. Since your bonsai is growing in such a small amount of soil it is necessary to replenish the soil's supply of nutrients. Any general-purpose liquid fertilizer will do fine. It is suggested that fertilizers be used at half their recommended strength. Fertilizer should be applied at least once a month except during winter.

TRIMMING & PINCHING

Trimming and pinching will keep your tree miniature. Pinch and trim back the new growth to the farthest safe point. Never should all of the new growth be removed. The plant must be allowed to grow slowly.

REPOTTING

Repotting must be performed occasionally on all bonsai when their root system has filled the pot. The reasons for repotting are to supply your tree with fresh soil, and to encourage a more compact root system. As a rule, most deciduous trees require repotting every two or three years, while evergreens only need to be repotted every four or five years. The tree, along with all of its soil, should be removed from the pot. The outer and bottom most quarter of the tree's root mass should be removed. This is done by raking the soil away, then pruning back the roots. After this, the tree can be placed back in its original pot or into another. A thin layer of small gravel is placed in the bottom of the pot for drainage purposes. After placing the tree back in the pot, the area left vacant by the pruned root mass should be filled in with fresh soil. After repotting, your bonsai should be thoroughly watered. This can be achieved by submerging the entire pot in a tub of water.

