



Care Sheet

Bonsai

What are Bonsai?

Bonsai are miniaturized trees that grow in shallow pots and are trained to have a pleasing shape

What keeps Bonsai small?

The small pot, controlled nourishment and frequent trimming of new shoots.

Are Bonsai easy to grow?

Yes, as long as you provide them with sufficient sunlight and water.

Watering

Water daily – wet the soil thoroughly, and let excess water drain away completely. The soil must not dry right out, nor must it be water logged.

Light

Bonsai require a lot of light, and are happiest and healthiest kept outside. Indoor Bonsai must be placed in a well-lit position, and frequently placed outside in a sheltered position. Avoid frost, snow, strong sun and winds.

Repotting

You can shift your Bonsai from one container to another at any time providing you do not disturb the root system. Water before and after potting. Put some fresh potting mix under and around the root ball if there is enough room. A potting mix with slow release fertiliser is ideal. If a tree is repotted annually, no extra feeding should be necessary. A liquid pot-plant food can be used if required.

Root Pruning

Every spring carefully check your Bonsai's root system. If the roots are crowded or matted, root pruning is required. Tease out the roots and trim off around 1/5th of the soil and roots. The root ball must be moist, and must not be exposed to the sun or drying winds. Repot firmly using potting mix, then water thoroughly and place in a sheltered spot for two weeks. Keep the soil moist.

Shaping

The aim of Bonsai is to produce a pleasant and artistic effect. All the new tips are nipped back to promote branch growth, only the shoots needed to improve the shape are left untouched. The shape of your tree can be permanently changed by wiring. Use copper, aluminum, galvanized or fuse wire. Loop the wire around the branches and gently bend to the desired shape. The shape will be 'fixed' in around three months' time and the wire can be removed.

Holiday Care

Water well and allow to drain for 30 minutes. Place the entire Bonsai in a plastic bag, leaving the trunk and branches protruding out the top. Seal the bag at the bottom of the trunk leaving the pot, roots and soil fully enclosed in the bag (this method is suitable for up to three weeks).

*Aquatic Fertilizer Pond Tabs, Finofil Aquatic Pots and Daltons Aquatic Mix
can be found on the 'Pond & Plants' web page or in store.*

**For more information about water lilies and lotus plants
see the 'How To/FAQ' page on our web site.**

Stone & Water World
218a Marua Road,
Mt Wellington,
Auckland
W. www.stoneworld.co.nz
E. sales@stoneworld.co.nz
P. (09) 525 3142