

# Indoor Bonsai Trees

## **Information Leaflet No. 66**



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## General Care And Culture of Sub Tropical And Tropical Bonsai Tree

Certain varieties of Bonsai trees are now being grown that are not hardy (i.e. they cannot survive low temperatures). As such these plants can be loosely described as detailed below.

### We supply Indoor Bonsai with yellow and red labels; -

<u>Yellow</u> - Bonsai which have yellow labels state minimum winter temperatures. Although these varieties cannot survive outside during winter it is recommended that they be given extended periods in the fresh air during summer.

<u>**Red**</u> – Bonsai which have red labels are predominantly indoors, but can be placed outside in periods of good, warm weather.

#### **INDOOR BONSAI.**

A suitable position indoors is where the tree is not in direct midday sun in summer, as this may scorch the leaves, but it should be in as light a position as possible. Keep the tree away from direct sources of heat such a radiators, fires etc., as even the most tropical of plants will find this too hot. Avoid spots indoors that suffer from draughts.

As the atmosphere in the modern house or flat is comparatively dry then the humidity should be increased by either spraying the plants with tepid water or by standing them in trays full of moistened pebbles. This latter method has the advantage of stopping water from dripping on the furniture.

#### **Bonsai Need Water**

Rain water if possible but tap water that has been allowed to stand for a few hours adjusting its temperature is adequate. Water whenever necessary with a fine rose or, even better, immerse the pot to its rim until the compost is thoroughly soaked. During the Winter months when the trees are resting keep Indoor Bonsai drier than they would be normally. THE COMPOST MUST NEVER BE ALLOWED TO DRY OUT COMPLETELY.

#### **Bonsai Need Fertiliser**

From late Spring to early Autumn a weak liquid feed can be given at ten day intervals. It should be remembered that the trees in peat based composts will need feeding more often than those in John Innes compost.

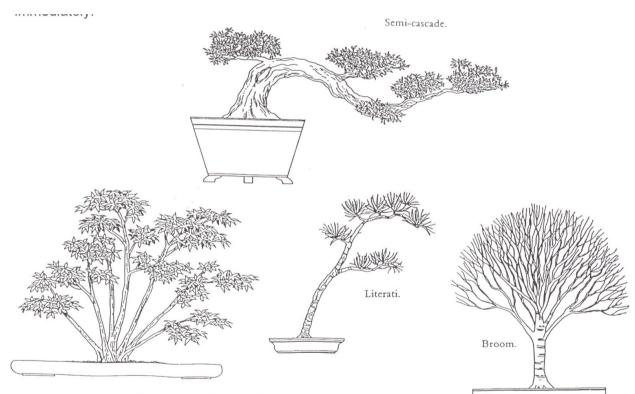
#### **Bonsai Need Pruning**

The size and shape of an Indoor Bonsai tree is created and maintained by training with wire and correct pruning. Pruning is by far the most important. Allow trees to develop four sets of leaves before pruning back to the first or second leaf joint. Rub out any buds where foliage or branches are not wanted. Wires should be removed once the tree has attained the desired shape. Most Indoor Bonsai can be trained with wire at any time of the year that the sap is flowing freely.

#### **Bonsai Need Repotting**

Repot in March or April before the spring growth starts. Indoor trees are repotted every one to two years. Roots of all but the oldest trees are pruned back approximately one third of their length. Whatever potting compost is used it must be able to allow the penetration of both air and water.

Finally may we wish you every happiness with your tree. We are always pleased to offer advice and help. If you are in any doubt about the health of your tree please contact us immediately.



· Clump group: all growing from the same root.

# This leaflet is available in alternative formats.

Please ask a member of staff or Tel: 01727 822255 Email: info@aylettnurseries.co.uk