

BONSAIS

The arrangement

Origin; country or region: The art originated in China, where, perhaps over 1,000 years ago, trees were cultivated in trays, wooden containers, and earthenware pots and trained in naturalistic shapes.

Bonsai, however, has been pursued and developed primarily by the Japanese

Usage: Bonsaitray planting', pronounced iis the Japanese and East Asian art of growing and training miniature trees in containers, developed from the traditional Chinese art form of penjing
STRENGTHS/OPPORTUNITIES:

Purposes of bonsai are primarily contemplation for the viewer, and the pleasant exercise of effort and ingenuity for the grower.

WEAKNESS:

By contrast with other plant cultivation practices, bonsai is not intended for production of food or for medicine. Instead, bonsai practice focuses on long-term cultivation and shaping of one or more small trees growing in a container.

Positioning: Your bonsai should be kept away from direct heat or draft.

Lighting: Keep your bonsai in area with plenty of sunlight.

Humidity: Bonsais need humidity in order to keep their soil moist.



* Not on EMC list, Local botanical

Once enjoyed by only the wealthiest aristocrats and high-ranking members of Japanese society, bonsai is now an art form that is enjoyed by people from all around the world.

Care & Handling & Tips

To determine the best **location** to display your bonsai, you'll need to know what type of tree it is and whether or not it's an indoor or outdoor plant.

When **watering** your bonsai tree, the main goal is to fully saturate the root system with water. To allow for proper draining, many bonsai trees come with a tray to collect excess water.

Maintenance pruning strengthens the tree by encouraging new growth. By cutting away young shoots and leaves it exposes the leaves underneath to air and sunlight which further strengthens the tree and benefits its overall health.

Structural pruning is a more advanced technique that should only be done when the tree is dormant. It involves the removal of the tree's primary structural branches and requires the skills of a professional to ensure that the tree can recover.

Another way to properly shape your bonsai tree is to wire its branches. You can control the shape and growth pattern of certain branches by wrapping a thin wire around them.

The key to choosing the **right soil** for your bonsai is to choose one that offers proper drainage. Add large particles to your soil mixture, such as volcanic rock or stones, to improve drainage and to introduce air into the soil. The ideal soil mixture should also be able to hold water which can be improved by adding clay.

They say that bonsai isn't just a plant, it's a way of life. Bonsai trees require regular care and maintenance.