

# Taking Care of your Bonsai

**Specific instructions for the care of your Bonsai Tree depend upon the type and variety of tree chosen, but here are a few basic points to consider:**

## Indoor or Outdoor?

Check whether your Bonsai is to be kept indoors or outdoors and place in a suitable position, with plenty of light but avoid blazing sun which can scorch the leaves. Use a humidity tray for indoor trees with a layer of gravel to avoid direct contact with water in the tray.

## Watering

**General:** Watering is a key element to a tree's survival - getting it right is vital! Never let the bonsai soil completely dry out, but don't keep it constantly wet. Find out about your tree - some like more water than others!

**Outdoor:** Water approx every other day, more often during summer months (quite possibly twice a day).

**Indoor:** Watering requirements will depend on the position of the tree and the temperature of the room. Your tree should be in soil with good drainage, so you can water from the top of the soil. The water should run freely through the soil. Drain. You may need to water more often during winter months if in a warm room.

## Fertilizer

Required during summer months but less (or not at all) during the winter, depending on the type of tree.

## Pruning

Cut off long shoots to maintain the original shape (unless you plan to alter the shape). The time for pruning depends on the type of tree.

## Deciduous Trees

Leaves will drop in autumn and new leaves will appear in spring. Continue to water your tree over winter as required.

## Re-potting

All Bonsai require re-potting at some stage, whether you wish to let them grow larger or maintain their original size. This is usually best done in spring although certain trees can be re-potted at other times of the year.

The best way to find out about the care of your Bonsai tree is to attend a **Bonsai Workshop at The Bonsai Centre** (see website for details)



**The Bonsai Centre**

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