

# Juniper Bonsai

The Japanese Garden Juniper is the most popular and recognizable bonsai in the United States, with good reason. Rugged and adaptable, Junipers can live a very long time. Some specimen Juniper bonsai trees are over 500 years old. To acquire a Juniper bonsai is to look forward to many years of enjoyment.

## Water

Thoroughly soak the soil when surface is dry to touch. Some people prefer to let their bonsai sit in a water bath for several minutes and let the soil soak up water from the bottom. You should check the soil everyday! They also enjoy an occasional shower.

## Light

Junipers enjoy full sun. For a happy bonsai place in a south or west facing window.

## Fertilizing

Apply a mild organic fertilizer (equal parts NPK), liquid or pellet form, spring through summer. For pellets apply 1x per month, liquid 2x per month. In fall, use a fertilizer with less Nitrogen and use liquid only 1x per month. No need to feed during winter dormancy. Never fertilize a weak tree.

## Temperature & Air

Good air circulation is very important. Keep in a well ventilated area at all times. Keep your juniper outdoors as soon as the temp reaches 40° and do not bring inside until late fall to initiate dormancy. For winter keep your juniper in a bright, cool (25°-45°), well ventilated area. Don't forget to water! If you do not have an unheated or cool room, keep in the coolest spot available and mist frequently.

## Cleanliness

Always keep your bonsai clean of old needles. It is a natural process to shed old needles, which can litter the soil. Keeping the soil free of debris eliminates the chance of disease and insect pests.

Info sheets adapted from:

new england bonsai gardens · 508 883 2842 · [www.nebonsai.com](http://www.nebonsai.com)

