



BONSAI ACADEMY OF S.A. TRADIG AS

## BONSAI FRIEND

CELL : 083 - 398 - 3002

NEELS VAN TONDER

www.bonsaifriend.co.za

E-mail : Info@bonsaifriend.co.za

EASY GROW INDOOR AND OUTDOOR BONSAI  
WITH FULL AFTER SALE SERVICE

RETAIL CORPORATE GIFTS WHOLESALE

### BACK TO BASICS

**Watering step one** : the first thing you do after acquiring a bonsai tree from BONSAI FRIEND , is to place the bonsai container in a basin that has been filled with water at room temperature . The container must slowly be submerged to the brim . Allow a five-minute soaking period before the water is drained from the basin . Wait another five minutes for the excess water to drain from the soil and place the bonsai in it's pre-selected position. This procedure is done to ensure that the correct moisture level is reached to start your bonsai watering habit with.

**Watering step two** : the amount and frequency of water given to a bonsai are determined by the weather . In summer when it is hot and windy you will have to water at least daily to twice a day depending on the heat and wind . In mid-winter when it is cold , you only have to water your bonsai once a day to every second day . Always water your bonsai on the topsoil only , with a watering can or a jug . Provide so much water slowly , until the water runs through the drainage holes at the bottom of the bonsai pot . Main watering is always done early in the morning and top-up watering in the early afternoon , to prevent a wet warm environment at night , a breeding condition for insects .

**If you use a drip tray , suspend the bottom of the bonsai container about 3 cm above the brim of the drip tray to allow air circulation and prevent root rot .**

**Placement outdoor** : the best position for your bonsai is outdoor , on a stoop or a patio in full morning sun until 11 o' clock and is protected from the harsh midday and afternoon sun , in the shade but yet in bright light .

**Placement indoor:** indoor placement would be , in front of a north or a east facing window within a rulers length , 30 cm , from the actual window , without a net or a lace curtain , in full morning sun until 11 o' clock and protected from the midday and afternoon sun .

In wintertime, it is recommended that you move the bonsai away from the cold window at night to the middle of the room , to prevent frostbite . Afternoon sun is to warm for your bonsai and will only heat up the soil and kill the fine feeder roots , killing your bonsai .

*All bonsai trees grown by **Bonsai Friend** , are grown in an indoor environment , in special hand mix soil to enable you to place the bonsai tree indoor , or out .*

*A tree grown out of doors cannot survive indoors and will eventually die .*

**Feeding** : BONSAI FRIEND recommends that you feed your bonsai tree every second weekend throughout the year , with NITROSOL \* natural organic plant food . On the day prior to feeding , submerge the bonsai tree in water as explained in **watering step 1**, this is done to ensure that the soil is wet enough while feeding .( on a Saturday submerge the bonsai tree in water , on the Sunday feed the tree )

**Feeding one tree only** -- we take a teacup , fill it with water ( approx. 250 ml ) and add 10 drops of NITROSOL to the water and mix it well . For more trees , use NITROSOL as prescribed on the bottle label . Shake the bottle well before mixing . Diluted NITROSOL cannot be stored after being mixed with water .

**Leaf nipping** is done continuously throughout the year for as long as the bonsai tree produces new growth . On all new growing tips , allow four to six leaves to develop and cut it back to two or three leaves only , in such a way that the last leaf left on the stalk after cutting the growing tip , points out , down , and away , from the center of the tree . A tree always wants to grow upwards , but we prune it sideways like in fruit tree pruning .

**Main pruning** is performed once a year in late winter to early spring , just when the buds on the trees in the veldt start to swell . It is done to remove all the unwanted branch-growth of the previous season and to reshape the bonsai tree to the style we want it to develop .

**Root pruning and repotting** is done every two to three years from date of sale . Using the same container the first transplant and a bigger container the second transplant remove 1 cm of soil on all four sides and 1 cm of soil at the bottom on small trees , 2 cm on medium trees and 3 cm on big trees . This will also remove part of the over grown root system .

**Pests and diseases** can be controlled by using WONDER GARDEN GUN . After an attack of pests and diseases spray your bonsai tree on top and at the bottom of the leaves and the stem , wait two days , repeat the treatment , wait another two days and spray again . Pests and diseases is not **the** problem , **but** the **end result** of a problem , that was either incorrect watering or incorrect placement .

**FOR FULL INFO ON AFTERCARE , PRUNING AND REPOTTING PLEASE REFER TO**

**" BONSAI SECRETS "**

**ON OUR NEW WEBPAGE [www.bonsaifriend.co.za](http://www.bonsaifriend.co.za)**

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BONSAI FRIEND DO NOT ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE HEALTH OR CONDITION OF THE BONSAI TREE AFTER DATE OF SALE

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