

Bonsai is an art that has been practiced in Asia for many centuries. Bonsai trees are grown in small containers and trimmed and trained with wires so that they remain small and elegant. Planting a Bonsai tree from seed is a slow but rewarding process and you will have to allow time for the tree to take root and grow strong before you start training and pruning.

Three stylized tree cutouts are displayed against a white background. On the left is a large, dark-trunked pine tree with dense green needles. In the center is a smaller, thinner tree with a dark trunk and light green foliage. On the right is a tree with a dark trunk and vibrant red foliage, resembling a maple tree.

Mountain Pine
(Pinus Mugo
Pumilio) - an
evergreen with a
rounded spread and
shape and dark
green foliage.

Bonsai are grown from the same seeds as trees that grow to full size. Because the seeds in your Bonsai Trio kit are from temperate trees for effective germination they will need to be sown after a pre-planting treatment called 'stratification' - a period of artificial winter that non tropical trees require to break dormancy prior to germination. This can be achieved in a home refrigerator.

Perforate the plastic bags to allow air exchange. Put a pot in each of the plastic bags and place them in a cool light spot (13°-16°C) out of direct sunlight for 2-3 weeks. After this period, place them in the refrigerator for 4-6 weeks. Remove the pots from the refrigerator (again avoid direct sunlight as the peat remains moist but not too wet, hot and the seeds will die). Ensure that the peat remains moist but not too wet. germinate) (again avoid direct sunlight as the peat remains moist but not too wet. hot and the seeds will die). Ensure that the peat remains moist but not too wet.

enough for Bonsai training.

Watering - Ideally check the soil daily to ensure it is moist. You must not over water nor allow the compost to dry out and will usually need to water daily in the summer. Fertilise regularly except in the period of dormancy.

Root Pruning - Without root pruning, your Bonsai trees will become pot bound and unhealthy. The roots of an established Bonsai should be inspected annually and pruned if necessary to produce a small dense root ball. The process of removing one third of the roots each year enables new soil to be added to the pot and allow new roots to grow.

maintain the desired shape and size.

The image displays six product cards for 'plant theatre' kits, arranged in a 2x3 grid. Each card has a white background with a photograph of a plant or vegetable at the top. Below the photo is the product name in a serif font, followed by the 'plant theatre' logo (three vertical bars of increasing height) and the brand name 'plant theatre' in a sans-serif font.

- Top Row:**
 - Herb Garden Kit:** Features a photograph of fresh green basil leaves.
 - Funky Veg Kit:** Features a photograph of purple and yellow radishes.
 - Psychedelic Salad Kit:** Features a photograph of a mix of colorful vegetables including purple and yellow radishes, and red and yellow bell peppers.
 - Hot Chilli & Sweet Pepper Kit:** Features a photograph of red and yellow sweet peppers and red chilli peppers.
- Bottom Row:**
 - Cocktail Garden Kit:** Features a photograph of a pink cocktail glass garnished with a green leaf and a small purple flower.
 - Gourmet Flower Kit:** Features a photograph of blue cornflowers and a small yellow flower.
 - Forbidden Fruit Kit:** Features a photograph of a bunch of red cherry tomatoes.



plant theatre®

FOLD

Young seedlings will need a number of seasons of vigorous growth before their trunks are thick enough to prune and train as bonsai.



Chokkan
An upright form,
strong & straight
with branches
that stretch evenly.



Brunjingi
A form where the trunk is long and twisted with few branches.

Shakan
A slanting form where the tree looks wind blown and striking.

Chokkan
An upright form,
strong & straight
with branches
that stretch ever

A photograph of a Japanese maple tree (Acer japonicum) with bright red, deeply lobed leaves. The tree is trained in a bonsai style, with a thick, gnarled trunk that curves to the right. It is planted in a dark green, rectangular ceramic pot. The base of the tree is covered with a layer of brown mulch and small green moss. The background is plain white.

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