

# Bonsaitopia

## Care guide – Juniper

Native to North Asia (China, Japan). It is a Conifer and is an outdoor bonsai. Family of Cupressaceae with numerous species and varieties of the Rigid type with sharp needles and varieties with softer, scaled leaves.

### Location

Juniper trees require a lot of sun exposure, but care should be taken in the summer and provide some shade during the hottest period. Also in winter it will be necessary to protect the Juniperus (clod) by protecting the bonsai in a place sheltered from the frost when the temperature reaches minus 5°.

### Soil

Mix Akadama Hard Quality with Kiryuzuna or Pomice (50/50) at first. In the following transplants, reduce the percentage of Akadama and increase the percentage of Kiryuzuna. Older exemplars can be repotted with just Kiryuzuna.

### Watering

Always let the soil dry on the surface between two waterings.

### Pruning

Spring maintenance pruning consists of “pinching” the new shoots during the growing season. It is not advisable to use scissors, but your fingers, otherwise the needles will turn brown. Winter structural pruning consists of cutting the thickest branches to reorient or restructure the bonsai.

## Wiring

Junipers can be heavily wired. As with all species of bonsai, it is important to permanently monitor the wire so as not to let it injure the bark.

## Repotting

An essential process for bonsai, the transplant is carried out every 2 years for young plants and 5 years or more for adult bonsai.