

# BONSAI



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Bonsai literally means “a tree in a tray or pot.” These trees are pruned, wired, and cultivated in a confined space using special techniques, making them miniature replicas of majestic trees found in nature. Rather than being viewed simply as plants, bonsai are regarded as living works of art shaped by patience and aesthetic sensibility.



The art of bonsai originated in China (the art of Penjing) and has a history of more than a thousand years. It was later developed in Japan, where it evolved into its refined and disciplined form as known today. In Far Eastern philosophy, bonsai represents harmony between humans and nature, balance, and the passage of time.

## Cultivation and Uses

Bonsai can be created from many different tree species (such as Olive, Juniper, Ficus benjamina, Maple, etc.). Their care is much more delicate compared to normal trees; because they are grown in small pots, water balance is extremely critical. Periodic root and branch pruning keeps the plant miniature, while shaping with wire gives it the character and appearance of an aged tree.



In landscaping, bonsai are generally used as focal (accent) plants. Displayed on special pedestals in modern gardens, Zen gardens, or at entrances, they enhance the prestige of a space. Indoors, bonsai made especially from Ficus species are preferred for their durability and aesthetically pleasing trunk structures. Owning a bonsai is not merely about growing a plant, but about becoming the guardian of a living legacy that can be passed down through generations.