

Cotoneaster



Cotoneaster are a good choice for shohin and mame bonsai as their leaves, flowers and fruit are small. They have attractive glossy leaves, take pruning well and will back bud quite easily.

Species

Often Used For Bonsai



C. Microphylla
Thyme Leaf



C. Horizontalis
Rockspray



C. Adpressa
Praecox

Styles

To Choose From



Informal Upright
"Moyogi"



Cascade
"Kengai"



Twin Trunk
"Sokan"



Multiple Trunk
"Kabudachi"



Bonsai-in-Rock
"Ishisuki"



Raft
"Ikadabuki"

Seasonal

Tasks for Care and Styling

Native to the northern temperate regions of Europe and Asia, Cotoneaster thrive in rocky terrain. They like fast-draining soil and to be watered well, but only when nearing dryness.



Spring

- Wire tree just before bud break; protect the bark
- Re-pot annually in early spring; remove up to 1/3 of roots and do not bare root
- Fertilizer every 2 weeks until flowers appear



Summer

- Fertilize monthly instead
- Most varieties prefer full sun
- Shorten shoots to one or two leaves during the growing season
- Remove suckers or trunk will not thicken



Fall

- Stop fertilizing and add a handful of bone meal to soil
- Remove wire to avoid winter damage
- Display tree for its fall colour
- Sow berries in soil to propagate



Winter

- Major pruning can be done during dormancy
- Handles cold to -5°C.
- Protect from coldest winter days by digging pots into the soil or move tree to garage to protect from frost

