

# Bonsai for Indoors

Because they are occasionally sold in grocery store floral departments, many people think of bonsai as primarily indoor plants. But in Japan, they are almost always grown outdoors, and many of the traditional plants can't spend more than a few weeks indoors.

On the other hand, there are many species that can be used indoors, and here's a list of the most common:

## **Australian Brush Cherry**

(*Syzygium paniculatum*)

## **Bougainvillea\***

(*Bougainvillea* species & hybrids)

## **Boxwood\*** (*Buxus microphylla* varieties)

## **Citrus\*\***

(*Citrus*, *Fortunella*, & *Poncirus* species)

## **Elephant's Food\*** (*Portulacaria afra*)

## **Ficus**\*\* (*Ficus benjamina* varieties)

## **Fig, Boxleaf** (*Ficus buxifolia*)

## **Fig, Laurel\*** (*Ficus microcarpa* varieties)

## **Fig, Mistletoe** (*Ficus deltoidea*)

## **Fig, Willowleaf** (*Ficus salicifolia*)

## **Fujian Tea** (*Carmona microphylla*)

a.k.a. Fukian Tea

## **Geranium, Scented-Leaf\***

(*Pelargonium* species)

## **Hawaiian Elf Schefflera**

(*Schefflera arboricola*)

## **Hawaiian Hawthorn\*** (*Osteomeles* species)

## **Jade Plant\*** (*Crassula ovata* [*C. argentea*])

## **Jasmine, Asian\***

(*Trachelospermum asiaticum*)

## **Jasmine, Dwarf\*** (*Jasminum parkeri*)

## **Lavender Starflower\***

(*Grewia occidentalis*)

## **Ming Aralia** (*Polyscias fruticosa*)

## **Mini Pine Tree\*\*** (*Crassula tetragona*)

## **Mock Orange, Dwarf\***

(*Pittosporum tobira* 'Wheeler's Dwarf')

## **Natal Plum\*** (*Carissa macrocarpa*)

## **Orange Jessamine, Dwarf\***

(*Murraya paniculata* 'Exotica')

## **Parlor Palm**

(*Chamaedorea elegans* [*Neanthe bella*])

## **Sago Palm\*** (*Cycas revoluta*)

## **Serissa** (*Serissa foetida* varieties)

a.k.a. Snow Rose or Thousand Stars.

## **Star Pine** (*Araucaria heterophylla*)

a.k.a. Norfolk Island Pine.

## **Yew Pine** (*Podocarpus macrophyllus maki*)

Those marked with an asterisk (\*) are normally not grown as houseplants because they need very bright light—usually at least some direct sun! They will still work in the house, if they get enough light