

Why re-pot?



- Nursery or collected tree (1st root reduction)
 - Generally NOT same season as major styling
 - Do not disturb core of root mass!
 - ❑ *Deciduous: remove ~50-90% of original (non-bonsai) soil*
 - ❑ *Conifer: remove ~30-60% of original (non-bonsai) soil*
- Rootbound (pre)bonsai
 - Create space for new root growth
 - Remove more of original (non-bonsai) soil
- Replace uncertain/poor soil (*e.g.* mall-sai gift)

Trust the process!



Materials/tools

- ✓ Tree
- ✓ Wire cutters & wire
- ✓ Flat edge tool (perimeter)
- ✓ Chopstick / root hook
- ✓ Shears & concave cutter
- ✓ Pliers
- ✓ Water mister
- ✓ New pot w/hole screens
- ✓ Aeration layer (optional)
- ✓ New soil; scoop; tamper
- ✓ Immersion tub
- ✓ Water

Steps

1. Confirm desired orientation: “front”, angles
2. Snip securing wire, if any
3. Loosen pot edges from root mass
4. Ease out rootball from pot
5. Expose true base at top surface
6. Tease out roots w/chopstick or hook, removing soil, working from sides & bottom, **PATIENTLY**
7. Cleanly cut back roots (longer or thicker ones)
8. Leave undisturbed core root mass on 1st 3 repots
9. Mist the rootmass often
10. Prepare pot: screens, securing wire, aeration layer, some new soil
11. Secure tree with desired orientation
12. Add & work in new soil w/chopstick GRADUALLY
13. Leave ¼” lip at edges; tamp & smooth surface
14. Immerse & soak for 5-10 minutes
15. **No freeze, no direct sun for ~3-4 weeks**