



Keeping your bonsai healthy

If you bought or received your tree from a mall or a plant store or a street vendor, it may have some small pebbles glued on top of the soil. This is mainly to keep the soil from spilling out when shipping the tree. It is not healthy for the tree's drainage. Carefully pick these pebbles off the soil, you'll probably have to pry them off since they are glued on.

1 your tree is a juniper tree, it is an OUTDOOR tree, if you keep it inside for more than about a day, it will die

2 your tree needs some direct sunshine, but not all day, keep it somewhere where it gets a few hours of morning or afternoon sun each day

3 junipers don't like wet soil, let it almost dry out between watering. Keep a small shish kabob stick in the soil and when it pulls out almost dry. Then water it.

4 junipers love to have their foliage misted,

If your tree is not a juniper, it might be a Chinese elm, or Japanese maple, or a Ficus. All should be kept outside like the juniper. If it is a Ficus, or Fukien tea.... Those are tropical and need to be taken indoors in the fall, all the others need to be kept in some cold spot for winter, to go through a dormancy, or they will die. A good spot is an unheated garage

Those are the basics... if you have any more questions, send us an email at

contact@okamotobonsai.com