

# BBS: Tool Talk

2017-03-15; 1903

BBS: Boise Bonsai Society

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Start with what you need only, and work your way up as funds, time, and interest allow. Recommended tools are listed in order of likely precedence, and each additional list expands on the previous.

## 1. Getting started without Bonsai Tools

- Small Pruning Shears:



... Or Bonsai version:



- Large Shears:



- Needle-nose Pliers



- Garden Spade:

## 2. Getting started with Essential Bonsai Tools

- Tweezers:



- Concave Branch Cutters:



- Wire Cutters:



- Chop-stick:



## 3. Must-Have Bonsai Tools for the Enthusiast

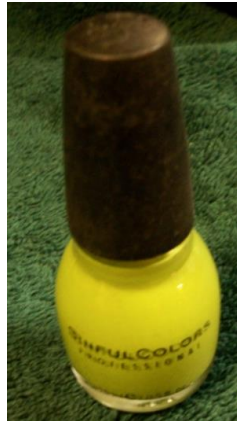
- Turn table
- Soil Sieves
- Toothbrush
- Coco Brush
- Wire Brush
- Knob Cutters
- Root Rake
- Root Cutters
- Soil Scoops
- Fine Twig Shears
- Jin pliers
- Branch Splitters



Carrying Case of some kind:



\* Important: Mark your tools with a unique finger-nail polish color (especially when bringing your tools to workshops!):



## Tool Care:

- Clean occasionally of debris and sap.
- Oil after cleaning with a light machine oil or WD-40 applied to a rag.
  - Keeping well-oiled deters rust and maintains easy movement.
- Use the correct tool for the job!
  - Only use wire-cutters to cut wire; other trimmers/shears used for cutting wire will be damaged.
  - Use heavier branch cutters to cut large branches; small shears will bend or warp if used for jobs that are too thick.

## Reference:

- YouTube: "How to Bonsai Tools – Basic Must Have Bonsai Tools"; OrlandoBonsaiTV:
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fbHE8H-HQhQ>
- YouTube: "How to use Common Bonsai Tools – Bonsai Trees for Beginners"; Ma-Ke Bonsai:
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gjbswLxvSd8>
- YouTube: "Essential Bonsai Tools"; ProjectBonsai:
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8faZ55HCiw8>
- YouTube: "Top Bonsai Tools for Beginners"; Tim Ellerington:
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tcbWYduUik4>
- YouTube: "Bonsai Tools for Beginners Basic Bonsai Tools Care and Cleaning"; Ma-Ke Bonsai:
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0rHTv1pv5JA>
- YouTube: "Bonsai Tools"; Bonsai Empire:
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nlttVziaJkU>

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