

HOW TO CARE FOR YOUR OLIVE TREE

How to care for your Olive Tree:



3" Clay Mini
Olive Tree



4" Clay Washpot
Olive Tree



5" Clay
Olive Tree

WATERING: Olives prefer to be kept evenly moist, but benefit from drying out slightly between watering. Feel the soil often to determine when to water. Carefully pour water on the surface of the soil until some drains out the bottom. Do not allow your plant to stand in water.

LIGHT: Olives require a fair bit of light when placed indoors, but can tolerate low light for a week or two at a time. Note that placement directly in a west or south facing window can be too much light and heat and will require very frequent watering. Filtered light from these windows is perfect, however, as is placement in a north or east facing window. Except when the temperature falls below freezing, placement of your olive in a shaded outdoor porch or patio is very beneficial as long as little direct afternoon sun is received.

FERTILIZER: Fertilize perhaps monthly while the plant is actively growing following the manufacturer's instructions. Don't fertilize a stressed plant as this will further stress the plant's roots.

PESTS: Actively monitor your plants for signs of insects or disease. If caught early, most pests can be removed by simply squishing, rinsing, wiping or minor pruning. The best preventive measure is to rinse the entire plant (not the soil) in cool water weekly. The act of rinsing or sprinkling the leaves regularly helps to keep them clean, green and free of insects. If an infestation does occur use an appropriate pesticide and follow the manufacturer's instructions.

REPOTTING: Once the plant is root bound, or just perhaps dries out too quickly to easily maintain, you may repot into a slightly larger pot, being careful not to over- or under-water the plant.

PRUNING: Selectively prune your Olive Tree to maintain the desired shape any time of year.

HOW TO CARE FOR YOUR OLIVE TREE

How to care for your Olive Tree:



6 1/2" Clay
Olive Tree

GROWING YOUR PLANT OUTDOORS: Your Olive Tree can be transplanted outside as long as you live in a location where the temperature does not fall below 10°F. Also, Olives prefer the soil to have a pH between 6.6 and 8.5 and be at least slightly calcareous. Transplant as you would any other tree and keep slightly moist until it is established. Once established, Olives are drought tolerant. Choose a spot in full sun; remember, though, that your Olive Tree was grown in a greenhouse and will get sunburned if placed in full sun upon receipt. Slowly acclimate your plant to full sun before transplanting it.



4" Clay Washpot
and 3" Clay Mini
Olive Trees

Once established, Olive Trees are very tough and non-demanding trees. You may choose to continue to water and fertilize them or not; they will grow faster and softer if taken care of or will be slower and hardier if left to their own devices.



5" Clay and 6 1/2"
Clay Olive Trees

Prune your Olive Tree according to what you want it for. If fruit is desired, research the proper methods for pruning. Otherwise prune your Olive Tree whenever and however you desire to keep it looking the way that is most pleasing to you.