

Bonsai Workshop

Bull Mill March 16th 2019

Schedule

- Part 1- Indoors, a power-point slide show and lecture/discussion covering history, examples, techniques, tools, sourcing trees, literature and materials. Examples of bonsai on display and for discussion. Demonstration & practise of root pruning starter trees
- Part 2- Preparing a planting bed and demonstrating planting starter and intermediate trees. Tags and stamps provided to label your trees

Objectives

- Participants will develop an understanding of the principles of Bonsai 'design' according to the Japanese Aesthetic of Wabi-Sabi.
- They will understand the horticultural & arboricultural principles of growing bonsai.
- They will acquire & prepare starter trees with view to further training during ongoing workshops in the summer and spring (according to the popularity).
- They can potentially achieve 'completed' trees in 5 - 7years.

This work shop will not cover...

- Coniferous trees
- 'Mame' (small hand held bonsai)
- Indoor trees
- Shrubs

This work shop will

- Cover deciduous outdoor trees with emphasis on Maples, Hornbeams, Elms
- Recommend designing trees of at least 12 to 18 inches standing height (from pot rim)
- Regard a tree as 'finished' when it is paired up with its proper dish.

Zen Buddhism

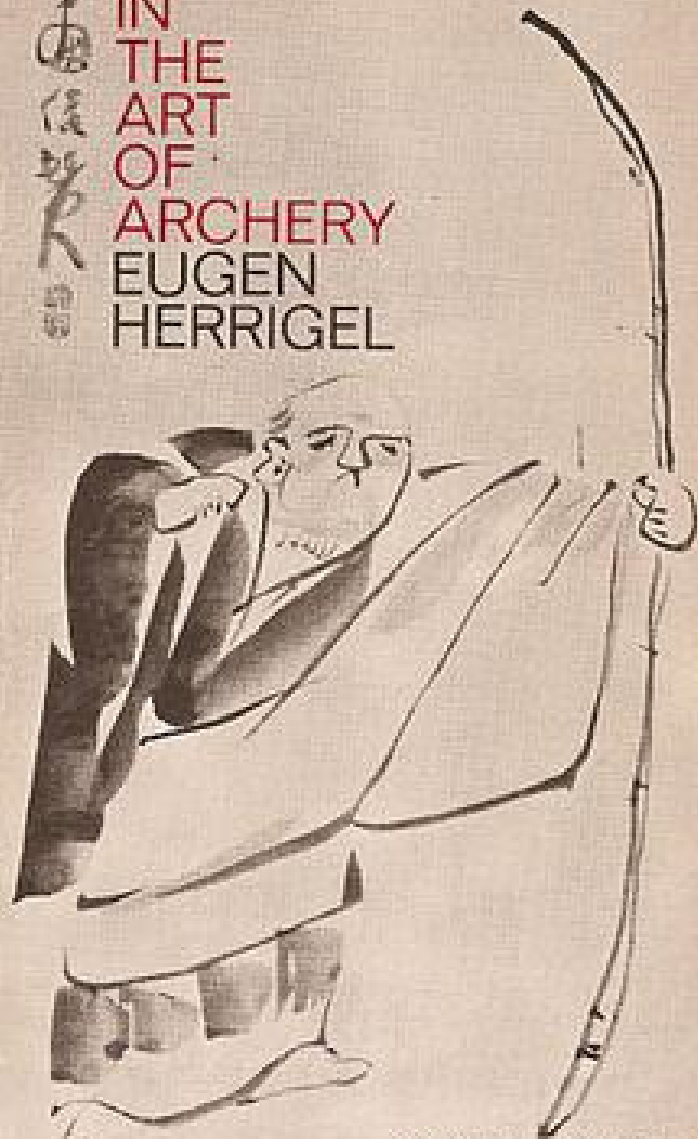
- The Zen arts can include disciplines ranging from architecture to butoh dance, however there are seven classical practices:

7 Classical Practises

- **Archery**
- **Swordsmanship**
- **Calligraphy**
- **Haiku**
- **Tea Ceremony**
- **Bonsai**
- **Flower arrangement**

入行
德
後
聖
人
論
藝

ZEN
IN
THE
ART
OF
ARCHERY
EUGEN
HERRIGEL



394-71900-0

V-883 \$1.95 • IN CANADA \$2.50

Alan Watts – The Way of Zen

- “Before I had studied Zen for thirty years, I saw mountains as mountains, and waters as waters. When I arrived at a more intimate knowledge, I came to the point where I saw that mountains are not mountains, and waters are not waters. But now that I have got its very substance I am at rest. For it’s just that I see mountains once again as mountains, and waters once again as waters.” *Ch’uan Teng Lu*

- *before enlightenment, chop wood carry water;*
- *after enlightenment, chop wood carry water.*

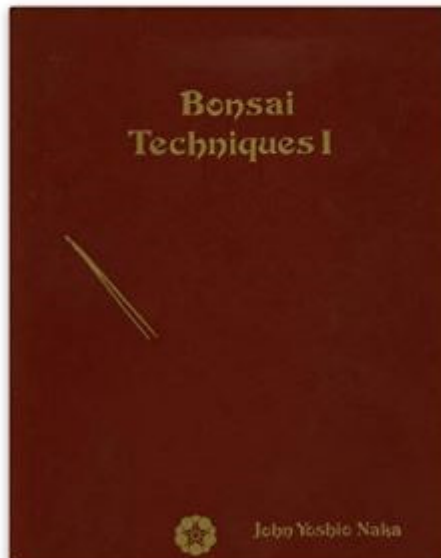
Some background reading

- Most books on bonsai are not good – lots of pretty pictures and little about hands on guidance to get realistic results
- However

Bonsai Techniques I



John Yeshie Nakagawa



Bonsai Techniques: 1 Paperback – 1 Jun 1984

by [John Yoshio Naka](#) ▾ (Author)

Get a £5 promo code with the Amazon App. [Learn more.](#)

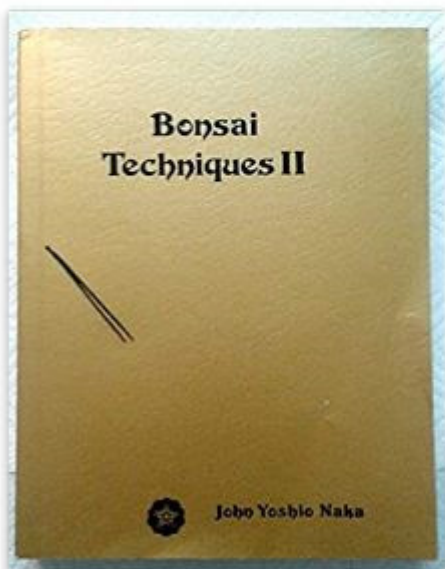
★★★★☆ ▾ 7 customer reviews

> [See all formats and editions](#)

Paperback
from **£101.17**

5 Used from **£101.17**

1 New from **£250.00**



Bonsai Techniques II Paperback – 1 Dec 1998

by [John Yoshio Naka](#) ▾ (Author)

Save £5 by signing into the Amazon App. [Learn more.](#)

★★★★★ ▾ 1 customer review

> [See all 2 formats and editions](#)

Paperback
from **£289.83**

4 Used from [£289.83](#)

1 New from [£480.78](#)

Bonsai Techniques



John Yoshio Naka

No haga la rama dominada hacia el frente. Evitando su inclinación, evite doblarla y no doble hacia adelante y hacia arriba.



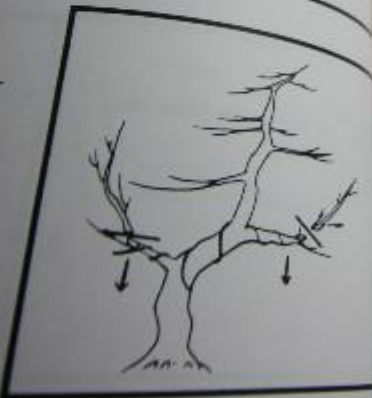
Figura 197

Si una rama inferior queda débil en un árbol que ya está modelado, no la corte ni reduzca, en su lugar guíela hacia arriba con alambre.



198

que haya recuperado un porcentaje, puede podarse y doblar abajo.



Si el árbol es demasiado grande, quite el árbol en dominado grande, que si el árbol es demasiado grande, quite el árbol en dominado grande, que si el árbol es demasiado grande, quite el árbol en dominado grande.

Figura 199

Si el árbol es demasiado grande, quite el árbol en dominado grande, que si el árbol es demasiado grande, quite el árbol en dominado grande.



Figura 200

Quite todos los fragmentos y astillas si una rama se parte parcialmente.



todocoleccion

Figura 91
Los vicos repandos.
La replicación de curvas similares es
también atractiva.



Troncos de California

Figura 92
Tronco de California, con un tronco
curvado y curvado por el viento.



Figura 93
Junpero de California, con un tronco
extremadamente retorcido, casi dis-
torsionado, pero aún así, interesante.



Figura 94
Tronco drásticamente curvado de un
Junipero de California.



TRIMMING TWIGS, SMALL BRANCHES

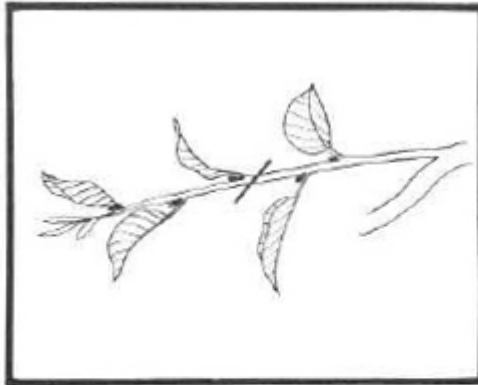


Figure 120.
Correct place to cut.

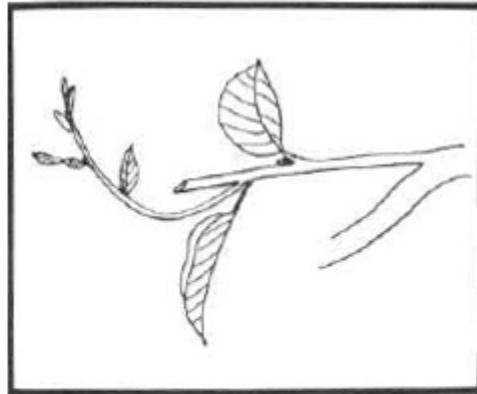


Figure 121.
New shoot will sprout in this direction.

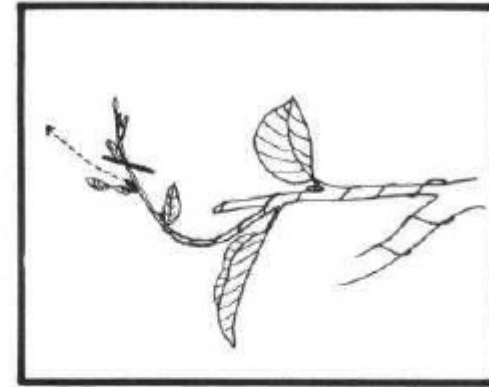


Figure 122.
Trim again for next growth.

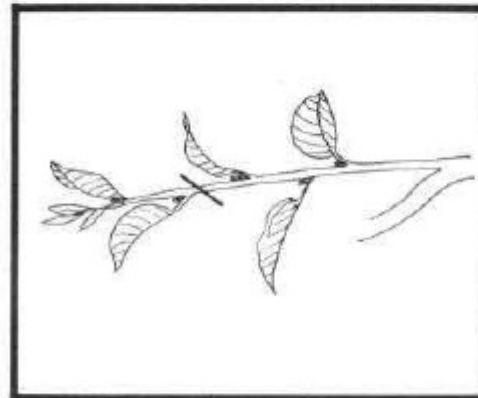


Figure 123.
Wrong place to cut.

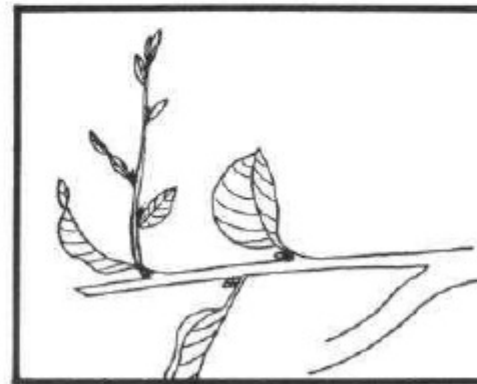
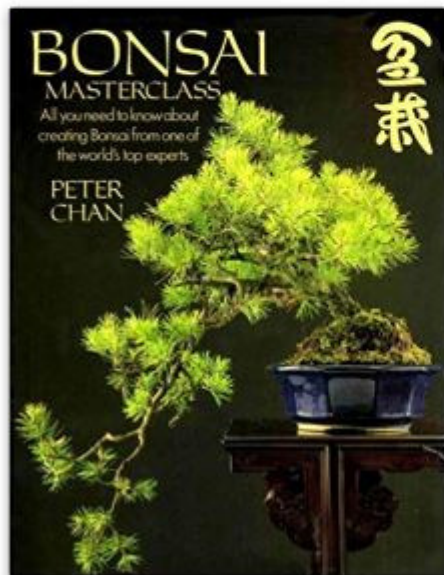


Figure 124.
If cut wrong, the new growth will
shoot straight up.



◀ Back to search results for "peter chan bonsai"



Bonsai Masterclass: All you need to know about creating Bonsai from one of the world's top experts.

Hardcover – 12 Nov 1987

by [Peter Chan](#) (Author)

Save £5 by signing into the Amazon App. [Learn more.](#)



6 customer reviews

> [See all 10 formats and editions](#)

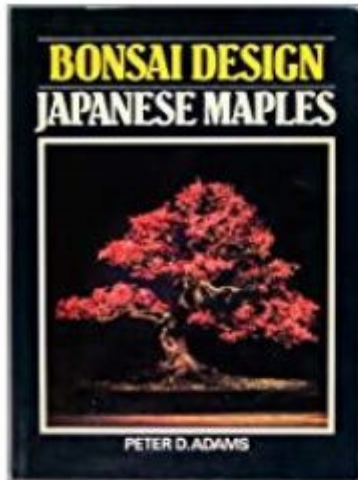
Hardcover
from **£0.37**

Paperback
from **£9.45**

16 Used from **£0.37**

6 Used from **£9.45**

3 New from **£62.96**

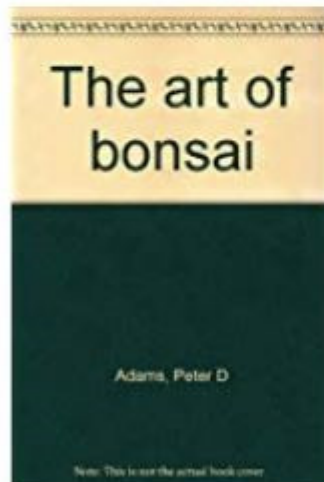


Bonsai Design: Japanese Maples 1 Aug 1988

by Peter D. Adams

Paperback

£0.01 (15 used & new offers)



The art of bonsai by Peter D Adams (1981-05-03) 1870

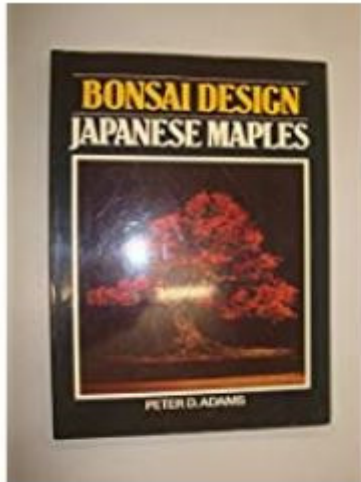
Hardcover

£52.45 (1 used & new offers)

Paperback

£14.83 (7 used & new offers)

Other Formats: [Hardcover](#)



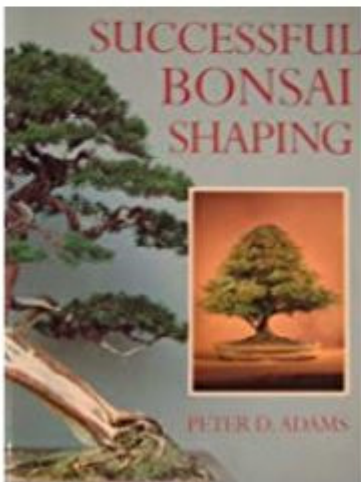
Bonsai Design: Japanese Maple 14 Jul 1988

by Peter D. Adams

Hardcover



£11.99 (6 used & new offers)



Successful Bonsai Shaping 30 Sep 1993

by Peter D. Adams

Paperback



£19.95 (3 used & new offers)

Paperback

£59.34 (7 used & new offers)

Essential Rule 1

- A good bonsai arises from a good root structure. If the roots are poorly designed, the tree fails.
- Seek inspiration from trees in nature. Mature beech trees are good.

Avebury Inspiration











Essential Rule 2

- Trees will tell you the style they should be trained



Formal Upright
"Chokkan"



Informal Upright
"Moyogi"



Slanting
"Shakkan"



Twin Trunk
"Sokan"



Multiple Trunk
"Kabudachi"



Forest
"Yose-ue"



Raft
"Ikadabuki"



Broom
"Hokidachi"



Semi-Cascade
"Han-kengai"



Cascade
"Kengai"



Literati or Bunjin
"Bunjingi"



Windswept
"Fukinagashi"



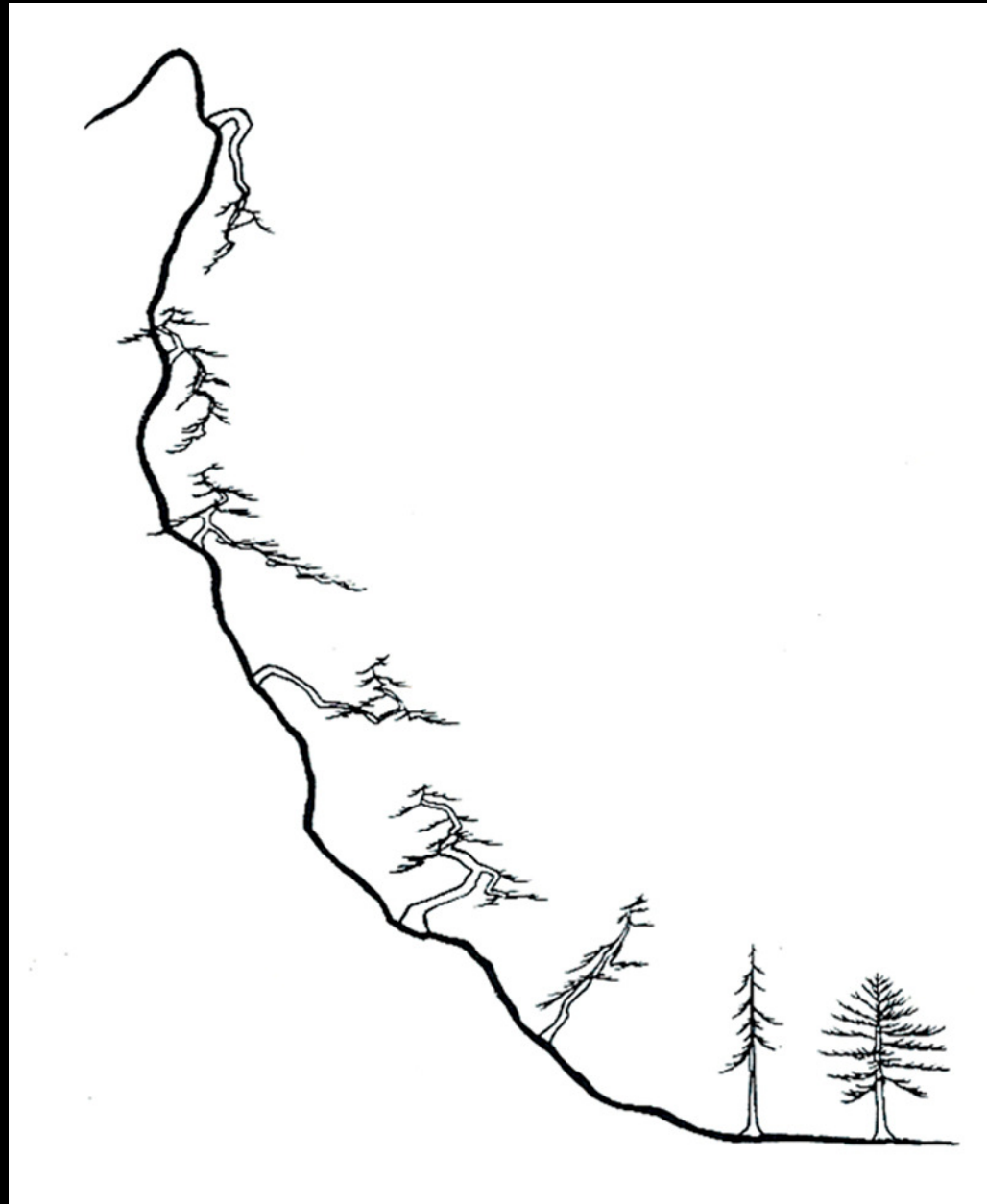
Root-over-Rock
"Seki-joju"



Bonsai-in-Rock
"Ishisuki"



Shari
"Sharimiki"



Essential Rule 2

- You must cut wood to make wood – this is not for the faint hearted
- The Hornbeam demonstrates this principle well and is provided for you as a starter tree



































Best Species Recommended

- Most Japanese Maples (*Acer Palmatum*)
- Hornbeams
- Zelkova
- Elm (not Wych Elm)
- Trident Maple

Other 'possible' species

- Silver Birch
- Oak
- Beech
- Chestnut
- Field Maple
- Yew
- Scots Pine
- Larch

Trees not recommended

- Willows
- Black and Downy Birch
- Horse Chestnut
- Sycamore

Sources of Trees

- Seedlings
- Cuttings
- Garden Centres
- Woodland & Heathland
- Hedges
- Friend's gardens

Seedlings

- Typically avoid gift boxes
- Good varieties for quick results include:
 - Zelkova
 - Larch
 - Pomegranite



Garden Centres

- Wide choice, often expensive.
- Problem access to roots to investigate them before buying. Can spend much on a tree which is totally unsuitable so beware
- Beware of grafted plants

Cuttings

- Elm and Trident maple particularly good
- Trident Maple (*Acer Buergerianum*) and hardy Chinese Elm (*Ulmus Parvifolia*) are difficult to find, but once found can provide many free trees

Both these varieties feature here

Garden centres

Recommended specialist nurseries

Mallett Court Nurseries –

Curry Mallet nr Taunton

All species - Expensive

Barthelemy & Co

Stapehill nr Wimborne

Acer Palmatum Specialist – Cheap small trees

Woodland & Heathland

- Illegal in woodland to dig up trees. Mervin Brown recommends: *“ Find your tree in daylight, tie fluorescent tape to it and go back at 3am in the morning with a torch to dig it up when nobody is about”*
- May require 2 seasons to lift the tree successfully
- Some heathland parks give permission to dig up Scots Pine and Birch (see BTCV and Avon Forest Park)

Hedges

- Excellent source, much of the work is already done.
- Can be difficult to extract
- Hedge-laying provides good opportunities
- Building, construction and road-works provide opportunities

Friends' gardens

- Practise persuasive horticultural gobbledeygook
- Practise the 'gentle art of acquisition'
- Bide your time
- *"That tree looks very unhappy there ..."*
- *"If you removed that tree, you could then do this, which is much better ..."*
- *"So sorry, backed my car into your tree, I'll sort it out, least I can do ..."*
- *"Give me that tree now or I'll tell your wife about . . ."*

Mervin Brown quotes

- *“Tie a goat to it !”*
- *“Train it with a cricket bat ! ”*

Wabi Sabi

- The basic concept one should adopt when growing Bonsai
- Video: Wabi Sabi according to Alain De Botton