



# Ficus nitida Care Guide

Ficus nitida, commonly referred to as Indian Laurel is an extremely versatile tree that has many uses. These can be grown in tree form providing an abundance of cooling shade, or they can be column style and planted together to form a green wall of privacy. No matter how you grow your ficus, these trees are sure to be one of the best trees on your property. Easy to grow and care for, these trees can be planted in nearly any landscape style. Here are some tips and tricks to care for your new trees.

## How to Water Your Ficus nitida.

The Ficus nitida (Indian Laurel) trees are extremely hardy trees. These trees prefer to be deep soaked all around the root ball. You want to soak the tree to a depth of at least 2-3' each time you water. Doing this will encourage deep, healthy root growth. Allow these trees to dry out between watering as, like any tree, they do not like to be sitting in water. If you have your trees set on a drip irrigation system, be sure that the emitters are at the edge of the canopy, this is called the drip line. If you are using a flood irrigation technique with a hose, allow the hose to flood the area around the tree slowly so that it can soak in, to the proper depth. After the water has soaked in, you should be able to dig deep around the root zone easily, and this means the water has penetrated deep enough.



## How to Fertilize Your Ficus nitida

If you want your new or existing trees to look as good and green as the day you brought them home, you need to feed them regularly. With regular applications of our Moon Dust fertilizer you too can keep your tree healthy and growing strong. It is recommended that you fertilize March to October, once per month. We also suggest using Super Charged Moon Juice on your trees year-round so that the roots will stay strong, and they help resist stress and damage that can occur. If you live in an area with hard or clay soil, you should also apply Soil and Water Conditioner every other month to help break up the soil and make your nutrients more available for your trees. Doing this will also help break up the soil for better drainage as well.



## How to Trim Your Ficus nitida

Ficus are great because they can be trimmed and shaped many different ways. These trees are versatile, with proper pruning they can be kept at exact heights and widths. We always recommended that you have a professional trees service do any major pruning or cutting back. Contact the Moon Valley Nurseries Tree Service Division for more help regarding this. If you do take on the task of pruning, be sure you have the proper equipment and safety gear. Only trim back in the cool season, typically early spring is best. Trim off any dead or dying branches or those that may have broken off in high winds. Never trim more than 10% of the canopy at any time. Too much trimming can put any tree into shock. Once you are done trimming, always be sure to use Super Charged Moon Juice on your trees to help them push through any stress they may go through.



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