

Throughout Washington, Brookdale Senior Living is a place for fresh starts and new beginnings for seniors.

Offering a continuum of care throughout communities across the state, chances are there's a Brookdale community near you providing the level of care and service you're looking for. From Independent Living and Assisted Living to Alzheimer's and Dementia Care, you can have confidence in making the choice to call Brookdale home.

The Art of Bonsai

Gardening is an activity enjoyed by many Brookdale residents. It's a great way to experience a sense of purpose and connect with the natural world, but as we get older, it becomes harder and harder to dig in the dirt. Fortunately, techniques like the Japanese art of bonsai can bring greenspace into your home, whether you're aging in place or living it up at one of our communities.

Bonsai takes years to master, but the word actually refers to the way you grow a tree rather than to the tree itself. In fact, almost any tree can be a bonsai. So if you want to create a tiny forest inside your home, follow these simple steps.



1. Pick a pot. Bonsai dishes tend to have a drainage pan, and they are wider than they are high. Choose a pot that matches your bonsai ambitions.

2. Chose a tree. Since almost any plant can be a bonsai, the sky's the limit. But if you're new to tiny trees, choose a low-maintenance candidate like a juniper bush.

When you're picking out your plant of choice, pay extra attention to the trunk of the bush. If you can spot the shape of a beautiful tree amid the untrimmed foliage, then chances are you've got your bonsai.

3. Start from scratch. On the bottom of your pot, add an aggregate layer of small rocks to create drainage. Then, fill the pot with bonsai potting soil. Bonsai soil tends to be lighter than other topsoil, creating optimum aeration.

4. Free your tree. Take your plant out of its container, and cut the soil layer if it's too tall for your bonsai pot. Then, take the remaining soil surrounding your tree and break it up, so the roots are looser and have more space. Once you're done, place your tree in the new bonsai pot and cover it up with soil.

Be mindful.

Since bonsais live in small pots and plots of soil, you'll need to repot, replant, resoil and water your little tree more than other plants. Fast-growing bonsais should be repotted every year, while slower-growth species can go two to three years between plantings.

5. Bonsai the boughs. Once you've potted your tree, the fun begins. Study the shape of your bonsai, and use potting sheers to remove branches and trim limbs to get the shape you want, creating height and space around your trunk. As your tree grows, you'll have the opportunity to trim as you go.

6. Trim your tree. After your tree takes shape, add a layer of small rocks over the soil, and feel free to place decorative objects at the base of the tree, including brightly colored pebbles, figurines or sea glass.



Brookdale Signature Mocktail

The Millman Chillman

For One Serving:

- Muddle cucumber and mint together
- Combine with ½ cup soda water, 1 ounce lime juice, a splash of liquid sweetener or ginger ale, ice and stir
- Garnish with lime or cucumber

Extra Sipping Knowledge:

- Cucumbers make a great canvas for flavor pairings: melon, raspberries, anything citrus, basil, rosemary or lemongrass.
- Adjusting the sweetness level can turn this from a morning beverage to an after-dinner, sweet-tooth satisfier.
- On those extra hot summer days, try this in frozen "mocktailrita" format instead of on the rocks.

This is just a sample of the sort of lifestyle experiences Brookdale residents can enjoy.

There's nothing like relaxing with a refreshing drink

after spending some time digging in the dirt. Treat yourself to this delicious, alcohol-free mocktail to enjoy the fresh flavors of spring and a taste of life at Brookdale!

Out Washington Locations

Brookdale Admiral Heights

Independent Living Assisted Livina 2326 California Avenue SW Seattle, WA 98116

Brookdale Alderwood

Alzheimer's & Dementia Care 18706 36th Avenue West Lynnwood, WA 98037

Brookdale Allenmore

Independent Living 2010 South Union Avenue Tacoma, WA 98405

Brookdale Allenmore

Assisted Living 3615 South 23rd Street Tacoma, WA 98405

Brookdale Arbor Place

Assisted Living 12806 Bothell-Everett Highway Everett, WA 98208

Brookdale Courtyard Puyallup

Assisted Living 4610 6th Street Place Southeast Puyallup, WA 98374

Brookdale Everett

Assisted Living 11333 - 3rd Place West Everett, WA 98204

Brookdale Fairhaven

Assisted Living 2600 Old Fairhaven Parkway Bellingham, WA 98225

Brookdale Federal Way

Assisted Livina 31002 14th Avenue South Federal Way, WA 98003

Brookdale Foundation House

Independent Living Assisted Living Alzheimer's & Dementia Care 32290 1st Avenue South Federal Way, WA 98003

Brookdale Harbor Bay

Alzheimer's & Dementia Care 9324 N. Harborview Drive Gig Harbor, WA 98332

Brookdale Monroe

Independent Living **Assisted Living** Alzheimer's & Dementia Care 15465 179th Avenue SE Monroe, WA 98272

Brookdale Montclair Poulsbo

Assisted Living Alzheimer's & Dementia Care 1250 NE Lincoln Road Poulsbo, WA 98370

Brookdale Ocean Shores

Assisted Livina 1020 Catala Avenue Southeast Ocean Shores, WA 98569

Brookdale Olympia East

Independent Living Assisted Livina 616 Lilly Road NE Olympia, WA 98506

Brookdale Olympia West

Alzheimer's & Dementia Care 420 Yauger Way South West Olympia, WA 98502

Brookdale Puvallup South

Alzheimer's & Dementia Care 8811 176th Street East Puyallup, WA 98375

Brookdale Renton

Assisted Living 71 Southwest Victoria Street Renton, WA 98057

Brookdale Silver Lake

Alzheimer's & Dementia Care 2015 Lake Heights Drive Everett, WA 98208

Brookdale Stanwood

Independent Living **Assisted Living** Alzheimer's & Dementia Care 7212 265th Street NW Stanwood, WA 98292

Brookdale West Seattle

Independent Living **Assisted Living** 4611 35th Avenue SW Seattle, WA 98126

To learn more about life in our communities, call (844) 253-6386.

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