

Ficus benjamina

Kingdom: Plantae (Plants)
Order: Rosales
Family: Moraceae
Genus: Ficus
Species: Ficus benjamina



Ficus benjamina, commonly known as the Weeping Fig or Benjamin Fig, is a species of fig tree native to Southeast Asia and Australia. It is widely cultivated as an ornamental plant due to its graceful drooping branches and glossy leaves.

Common Names In addition to Weeping Fig and Benjamin Fig, Ficus benjamina is also known by other names in different regions, including: Benjamin tree Java Fig Tropical Fig

Characteristic Features Leaves: Small, glossy, ovate to elliptical leaves that are typically dark green. The leaves can vary in size and shape depending on the variety. Branches: Drooping, weeping branches that give the tree its characteristic appearance. Fruit: Small, round figs that are typically green when immature and turn purple when ripe. They are not typically consumed by humans but may attract birds.

Uses Ornamental: Ficus benjamina is widely planted as an ornamental tree both indoors and outdoors in tropical and subtropical climates. It is valued for its graceful form and ability to thrive in a range of light conditions. Indoor Plant: Often used as a houseplant or in offices due to its tolerance of indoor conditions, though it can be sensitive to changes in light and watering. Hedge or Screen: In warmer climates, it can be used as a hedge or screen due to its dense foliage and ability to tolerate pruning.

Cultivation Climate: Prefers tropical or subtropical climates but can also be grown indoors in temperate regions. Light: Prefers bright, indirect light indoors but can tolerate some shade. Outdoors, it prefers partial shade to full sun.

Watering: Requires regular watering, keeping the soil consistently moist but not waterlogged. It is sensitive to drought and dry air.

Propagation: Typically propagated from stem cuttings. Maintenance Regular pruning helps maintain its shape and prevent overgrowth. Pruning can also help control its size and shape, especially when grown indoors. Toxicity Ficus benjamina contains sap that can be irritating to the skin and may cause allergic reactions in some individuals. It is also toxic to pets if ingested. Ficus benjamina is a popular choice for those looking to add a touch of greenery indoors or to their outdoor landscapes due to its aesthetic appeal and relatively low maintenance requirements.