

PLANTS TO READ ABOUT

Musa basjoo: a garden banana with considered winter protection

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AI-created scene based on the original shop image. Size reference: 2 young plants · each in a 12 cm pot · about 30 cm overall height. Decoration not included; not a product photograph to scale.

Grow with knowledge.

A collection for observation and reference. Detailed explanations to help you make care decisions suited to your plant and its position.

Issue September 2026

PLANT PORTRAIT

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Botanical classification	Musa basjoo
Family	Musaceae
Origin	Sichuan in China; long also known as Japanese fibre banana
Delivery size	2 plants · each in a 12 cm pot · about 30 cm overall height
Growth and special feature	Vigorous herbaceous perennial with pseudostems formed from leaf sheaths and lateral young shoots

Care at a glance

Observe, check and adapt care to the position and season. This table provides guidance for everyday practice.

Topic	What to do	Why it helps
Light	Warm, sunny to partly shaded and sheltered from wind.	Large leaves tear more easily in strong wind.
Water	Check regularly in summer and water thoroughly.	High demand still does not mean tolerance of waterlogging.
Soil	Humus-rich, nutrient-rich and well-drained.	Water and air must reach roots.
Fertiliser	Regularly during active growth following product instructions.	Reduce supply as autumn growth slows.
Leaves	Remove only dead or severely damaged parts.	A green torn leaf may remain useful.
Winter	Protect underground parts; keep small containers frost-free.	Leaves and pseudostems are not permanently frost-resistant.
Protection structure	Combine insulation with air exchange and protection from persistent wetness.	Airtight wet wrapping encourages rot.
Spring	Open protection gradually and observe regrowth.	Increase water and feed only as demand rises.

Knowledge that grows

Banana leaves on a pseudostem

Musa basjoo belongs to the banana family. Its strong upright structure looks tree-like but consists of overlapping leaf sheaths, not a woody trunk. New leaves emerge rolled from the centre, then unfold their surfaces. Lateral young shoots may form a group over time. The species is grown primarily for decorative foliage. Harvesting sweet dessert bananas is not a realistic goal with it; possible fruits are unsuitable for that purpose. Even the name Japanese fibre banana obscures its original Chinese origin.

Two young plants with plenty of development potential

The offer contains two plants in 12 cm pots at about 30 cm overall height. Original images accordingly show narrow young leaves. Large mature leaf fans arise only later in suitable conditions. Both plants can be grown on individually or planned as a group with sufficient spacing. The scene stays at this small delivery stage and does not show an already mature garden setting as the product. Warmth, root space and supply matter for further development. A quick impression of lushness must not be confused with a guaranteed size by a fixed date.

Warmth, wind shelter and good soil

Choose a warm sunny to partly shaded position protected from strong wind. The later large leaves may split along their veins. Such tears are often mechanical and do not automatically make an otherwise green leaf useless. Humus-rich nutrient-rich soil should retain water while draining surplus. Gradually acclimatise young potted plants to direct sun after sheltered cultivation. In containers, provide room for expanding roots in good time; the small retail pot is not intended for years of vigorous growth.

Summer growth needs reliable supply

Check root-ball moisture regularly during warm growing phases. A vigorous banana can use much water, especially in a container. Water thoroughly when needed and avoid both complete drying and water left standing in the container. During active growth, feed regularly following fertiliser instructions. Falling temperatures and reduced growth require less nutrition and water. Yellow leaves do not automatically signal a need for more feed; first check leaf age, light, moisture and roots. Balanced supply supports healthy structure better than occasional very strong doses.

Hardy does not mean green in winter

Green leaves are frost-sensitive. The above-ground pseudostems may also die back in freezing weather. Protection of underground parts determines regrowth; well-established plants in suitable positions can overwinter outdoors with careful protection. Remove dead leaves after frost damage and cover the root area with insulation. To retain stem height as well, an airy insulated structure protected against persistent wetness entering is needed. Small young plants in pots overwinter more reliably frost-free. There is no blanket frost guarantee for every region and container.

Support the fresh start in spring

Gradually open and check winter protection as weather becomes milder so nothing stays persistently wet and airless. Increase supply to new shoots only once growth resumes. Carefully remove old brown leaf remains without injuring the young centre. A frost-killed pseudostem does not necessarily mean the whole plant is lost; healthy underground parts can regrow. In winter quarters, watch for mites, aphids or other sucking pests and soft rotten areas. Observing shoots and roots establishes when repotting, dividing or other care makes sense.

Pictures and details

Images and descriptions from this portrait. Decorative items are not included in the offer.



Original shop image: Japanese fibre banana. 2 plants · each in a 12 cm pot · about 30 cm overall height. Natural variation is possible.



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Good to know

Can I harvest sweet bananas from Musa basjoo?

It is grown as an ornamental banana. Possible fruits are unsuitable as the usual sweet dessert bananas.

Do leaves stay green in winter?

Not in frost. Winter tolerance mainly concerns protected underground parts from which new growth can emerge.

How do I overwinter the small set plants?

Frost-free overwintering is more reliable in a small pot. Outdoor cultivation requires a suitable position, establishment and considered protection.

Must I cut off torn leaves?

Not while they remain mostly green and functional. Wind-related tears are common in large banana leaves.

The matching offer

[View set of 2 in the shop](#)

Link to the offer in German. Check the shop for the current price, availability and delivery contents.

[Read the complete portrait in English](#)



English portrait



Shop offer (in German)