

# Eucalyptus

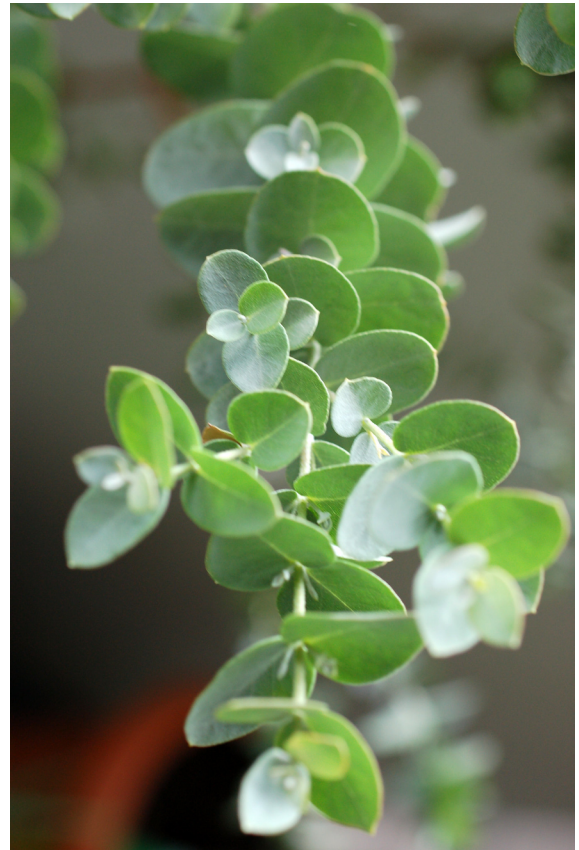
THE DIDGERIDOO,  
AN INDIGENOUS  
AUSTRALIAN  
INSTRUMENT, IS  
MADE FROM  
EUCALYPTUS WOOD

## WHAT IS EUCALYPTUS?

Eucalyptus, often called the gum tree, is an Australian plant that is well known for its medicinal attributes. It is now grown all over the world both for its aesthetically pleasing appearance and for its numerous health benefits. Used in aromatherapy, eucalyptus is said to help with coughs, colds, and sinus relief. This fragrant plant is also prized by floral designers for its use in flower arrangements. Amazingly enough, this remarkable plant is quite easy to grow with some simple techniques.

## PLANTING

Eucalyptus can be planted either in the ground, or in a pot. If you live in a place that has very cold winters, you may want to put it in a pot so that you can bring it inside during the winter. If you live in a mostly warm climate, you can probably plant it outside. Whether you choose to plant it in a pot or in the ground, you will probably want to mix some compost in your soil to add some nutrients to it. When planting in the ground, simply dig a hole twice as deep and twice as wide as your eucalyptus pot. Then mix some of the soil you removed from the hole with compost, place your plant in the hole, and fill it up with your soil mix. Water thoroughly to ensure there are no air pockets. When planting in a pot, you could use either your native soil blended with compost or some potting soil. Put some soil in the bottom of the pot, place your eucalyptus in the pot, and backfill with soil until the top of the rootball is even with the rest of the soil.



## MAINTENANCE

Eucalyptus is prone to root rot, so you want to make sure that you plant it in well-drained soil. If you plant it in a pot, make sure that the pot has several drain holes. It also needs lots of sun to flourish, so make sure that you put it in a place where it will get full sun. On average, eucalyptus needs to be watered much less than other plants. In fact, it usually needs to be watered once or twice a week, depending on how well-draining your soil is. Eucalyptus should also be pruned back in the spring to encourage branching. You may need to stake it with bamboo to promote a straight trunk.

## SILVER DOLLAR EUCALYPTUS

The Silver Dollar eucalyptus is a beautiful plant with green-blue, coin-shaped leaves. It is an evergreen that requires full sun and light watering. It is very drought and heat tolerant. Trimmed regularly, the Silver Dollar eucalyptus will stay smaller, but allowed to grow to its full potential, it can reach up to 35 feet tall.

## BABY BLUE EUCALYPTUS

The Baby Blue Eucalyptus is prized for its delicate, light blue leaves that are the perfect addition to a bouquet or floral arrangement. Like the Silver Dollar variety, Baby Blue eucalyptus is drought and heat tolerant, and grows best in full sun. It prefers a slightly acidic soil. Make sure to protect the plant from harsh, cold winds in the fall and winter.

## WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR EUCALYPTUS

### Eucalyptus Potpourri

Eucalyptus potpourri is very easy to make and is perfect for adding a purifying and fragrant element to sock drawers, cars, shoe lockers, and other places. To make, simply clip a few small branches from your eucalyptus plant. Bundle the branches together, and tie them upside-down in a dark, cool place, like a closet or cupboard. Let the leaves dry for 2-3 weeks. Once they are dry, remove the leaves from the stems and put them in a breathable sachet. This is especially effective in eliminating pesky spiders from drawers.

### Eucalyptus Arrangements

Eucalyptus also make a wonderful addition to any flower arrangement! Their unique shape and smell add diversity and interest to bouquets, wreaths, and centerpieces.

**Warning:** Please do not ingest eucalyptus leaves as they contain a chemical that is toxic to humans.

**BOB WELLS NURSERY**

*at Sorelle Farms*



**Instagram:**

bobwellsnurserytx

**Facebook:**

@BobWellsNursery

**Website:**

bobwellsnursery.com

**Email address:**

customerservice@sorellefarms.com