

“Shag Rug” Planting by Danny Coffey of Boulevard Cypress Cuttings on a Stone

June 22, 2022

What You Need

- **Multiple cuttings grown in bonsai mix close together in a container for at least 2 years**
- **Stone on which to plant cuttings**
- **Muck (see slide for photo of brand used)**
- **Copper bonsai wire (12 gauge) for –**
 - **Tie-down loops (see slide for photo of example)**
- **Quick-drying epoxy putty to cement tie-down loops to stone**
- **Aluminum bonsai wire (2.0 mm) for –**
 - **Tie-down wires**
 - **“Hair Pins” (see slide for photo of example)**
- **Screened akadama fines**
- **Screened sphagnum moss**
- **Collected live moss**
- **Water hose**

Cuttings stuck on July 10, 2020 in bonsai mix of akadama, pumice and lava rock

July 10, 2020



May 2, 2021



Boulevard Cypress Cuttings -- June 22, 2022

Ready for planting on
a stone.

The roots of the
cuttings had grown
tightly together in the
pot over past 2 years.



Stone to be used for planting

(Collected by Sage Smith)



Preparing Roots

Use chopstick to untangle roots



Cut very few roots because repotting was riskier being done in June rather than in early spring when roots could be safely cut back



Checking Fit of Roots to Stone



Making Tie-Down Eye Loops

Cut 3" pieces of 12 gauge copper wire



Twist to make a closed loop to be cemented into crack



Attaching Eye Loops to the Stone

Oatey epoxy putty was used to cement in place 3 copper eye loops to hold tie-down wires



In this example of a stone surface, with the "X" marking the intended center of the rooted cuttings, the circled areas are good locations to place the eye-loops. Once cemented, the uneven surface in those areas will help hold the eye-loop in place.



Installing Tie-Down Wires

Once the cement is dry, attach the tie-down wires to the 3 eye loops



The tie-down wires are ready to secure the rooted cuttings to the stone



Adding Bottom Soil Layer

Screened akadama
fines mixed with
screened sphagnum
moss



Placing Rooted Cuttings on Stone

Finding right location



Firming up placement



Connecting Tie-Down Wires

Twisting tie-down wires together



Tightening tie-down wires



Inserting Akadama Mix

Pack akadama fines mixed with screened sphagnum moss into root mass



Use chopstick to push the fines/sphagnum between the roots



Muck and “Hair Pins”

**Super Muck from
Bonsai Learning Center**



**Made from 2.0 mm aluminum
wire to pin moss in place**



Building Muck Wall

Apply thin layer of moistened pure muck



Cover entire root ball with the muck



Applying Moss

Preparing collected moss



Pinning the moss in place



Finished For Now

Final inspection



Soft watering



Plenty of Future Options

The cuttings will each be wired

An ancient forest will appear

