

## WIRING

All plants grow towards the light. In Nature young trees and branches will grow upwards, until the forces of gravity will pull old and heavy branches downwards. Young trees produce many small primary branches. In bonsai you are trying to simulate an older tree, as it would appear in nature. As bonsai's do not have the necessary weight in their branches for gravity to have any effect, this process has to be achieved through wiring, weighting and many other tricks. The wiring also bends the branches and trunks from straight and uninteresting to pleasing trees with movement. Branches may also appear in places that interfere with other branches. Wiring will move that branch into open space leaving a better bonsai.

The best results are obtained with commercial bonsai wire. This is copper wire and aluminium wire. Copper is more rigid, whereas aluminium is softer and easier to work with. In aluminium, you will need a thicker gauge than copper. Galvanised wire invariably leads to damaged bark (wire damage) and should only be used as a cable tie.