

Water Plants for Aquatic Topiary

Azure Carpet (*Laurentia aquatica*)

Suitable for small (6" to 9" tall) to medium (12" to 18") topiary. Especially good for small ones because it is flat and holds well to the form. Prefers full to part shade; does not like full sun. Tolerates cool temperatures.

Blue Sedge (*Carex glauca*)

Suitable for medium to large (over 18") topiary. Makes great "hair." A compact grower, it prefers cool temperatures. Does not trim well.

Copperleaf (*Alternanthera reinickii*)

Suitable for medium to large topiary. Can be rather aggressive. Does not care for low light or cool temperatures. Increased sunlight produces better color. Good for summer display.

Dwarf Horsetail (*Equisetum scorpiodes*)

Suitable for any size topiary. Grows under low light in warm to cool temperatures. Takes trimming well. Lends a furry appearance.

Miniature Jumping Rush (*Eleocharis minima*)

Suitable for small to large topiaries. Prefers warm²h and will turn brown in colder temperatures. Tolerates trimming better than Fiber Optics Rush.

Miniature Pennywort (*Hydrocotyle lemnoides*)

Suitable for smaller topiaries. Excellent for growing indoors or in shaded areas because it tolerates low light and cool temperatures. Grows relatively quickly. Good house plant.

Miniature Water Clover (*Marsilea minuta*)

Suitable for any size topiary. Low-light tolerant but sensitive to salt burn. Grows best in warm temperatures.

European Brooklime (*Veronica beccabunga*)

Suitable for medium to large topiary. Tolerates low light. Grows more compactly when it is cool. Pin it to the topiary form much like ivy.

Fiber Optics Rush (*scirpus montevidensis*)

Suitable for medium to large topiary because it can get rather long. If used on smaller topiaries, will need to be trimmed. Tolerates low light and cool temperatures. Good early spring or winter topiary.

Frog Fruit (*Phyla lanceolata*)

Suitable for medium to large topiary. Can be pinned to the form, much like standard topiary plants. Tends to have purple foliage in cool temperatures. Flowers abundantly during long days (more than 12 hours of sunlight).

Japanese Sweet Flags (*Acorus gramineus* and cultivars)

Short cultivars, such as 'Pusillus,' are suitable for small or large topiaries. Taller cultivars, such as 'Ogon' and 'Variegata,' are better for larger topiaries. All forms of Japanese Sweet Flag tolerate low light and grow in warm or cool temperatures.

Pink Sprite (*Rotala rotundifolia*)

Suitable for any size topiary. Particularly well-adapted to growing indoors in the winter because it blooms best during short days and takes low light levels well. Easy to pin to any form, much like conventional topiary plants.

Water Forget-Me-Not (*Myosotis scorpioides*)

Suitable for medium to large topiaries. Ideal for winter or spring blooms. Needs fairly bright light to flower and requires consistent shaping. Blue flowers add interest to the topiary.

Water Purslane (*Bacopa monnieri*) and Lemon Bacopa (*Bacopa caroliniana*)

Suitable for medium to large topiaries, although it grows well on small topiaries that are geometric such as round, triangular, or even the shape of a Christmas tree. Does not like cool temperatures. Tolerates low light but will not bloom.