Chessington Care & Advice

Mistletoe

Mistletoe (Viscum album) is an evergreen plant that is smothered in white berries from winter to spring. It grows in the branches of trees, such as hawthorn, apple, poplar, lime and conifers.





Mistletoe is a parasitic plant that lives off the nutrients and water from a host tree.

Although it is parasitic, it will not kill the host tree but can weaken it.

The berries are often spread by birds from one tree to another, and this is how the large rounded clumps of mistletoe form in tree branches.



Refrigerating fresh cut sprigs will help keep them fresh until you are ready to prepare them for decorative use.

Use thin florist wire to wrap the ends of short mistletoe cuttings.

Sprigs should last for around 2-3 weeks.

To help them stay looking fresher, try to put them in places that aren't directly in sunlight as this can help dry them out.

This guide has been put together to give a brief outline of the care needed. If you require any further information, please ask our plant advisors who will be very happy to help.





