



# SCULPTURE CARE GUIDE

## Sculpture Care

Each elephant sculpture has been meticulously crafted to the highest standard using dried lantana camara intricately wrapped around a bespoke, anatomically precise, steel rebar frame. To protect the lantana camara, each elephant has been coated with Osmo Oil before it leaves the artisanal workshops in Southern India.

The elephants will look their most majestic when displayed outside in the wilds of your garden; but like any piece of artwork made from natural materials, they are vulnerable to the harsh conditions of winter. To preserve their magnificence, please follow this recommended care guide.

As with any organic material, the sculptures will evolve and change colour over the years, like spring turning to autumn. With proper care, as outlined in this guide, the lifespan of the elephants can be sustained for many years to come.

## Autumn & Winter

During the adverse weather of the autumn and winter months, we recommend temporarily storing the elephants inside if you have a suitable outhouse, barn or other covered area. If you don't have an elephant-sized space available inside, the elephants are also happy underneath a terrace or a shady tree to help protect them from the worst of the snow, frost and rain. The smaller calf sculptures can be moved by two people, so we suggest relocating them to a covered area during the winter months, if possible.

If moving the elephant is going to prove too taxing, you can protect your elephant using a temporary cover. We recommend loosely draping a sheet of tarpaulin over the sculpture, ensuring it covers the entire sculpture from head to toe.

It's crucial that the elephant is completely dry before applying the cover, as any trapped moisture could damage the lantana. Once the adverse weather has passed, remove the cover and allow the sculpture to fully dry.

## Spring & Summer

The calm sunny climates of spring and summer are the best times to re-varnish the elephants to ensure the lantana stays healthy. We recommend cleaning and applying 2-3 coats of Osmo UV Protection Oil Clear (420) to each elephant at the start of spring and at the end of summer.

### Cleaning Your Elephant:

**Removing Natural Discoloration:** Over time, you may notice some natural blackness appearing on the back and head of the elephant. This is a normal characteristic of lantana camara and can be easily removed using a wire brush or stiff-bristle brush.

**Brushing Technique:** Gently but firmly brush the elephant, following the grain of the lantana. Continue brushing until you're satisfied that the majority of the blackness has been removed before proceeding to apply the oil.

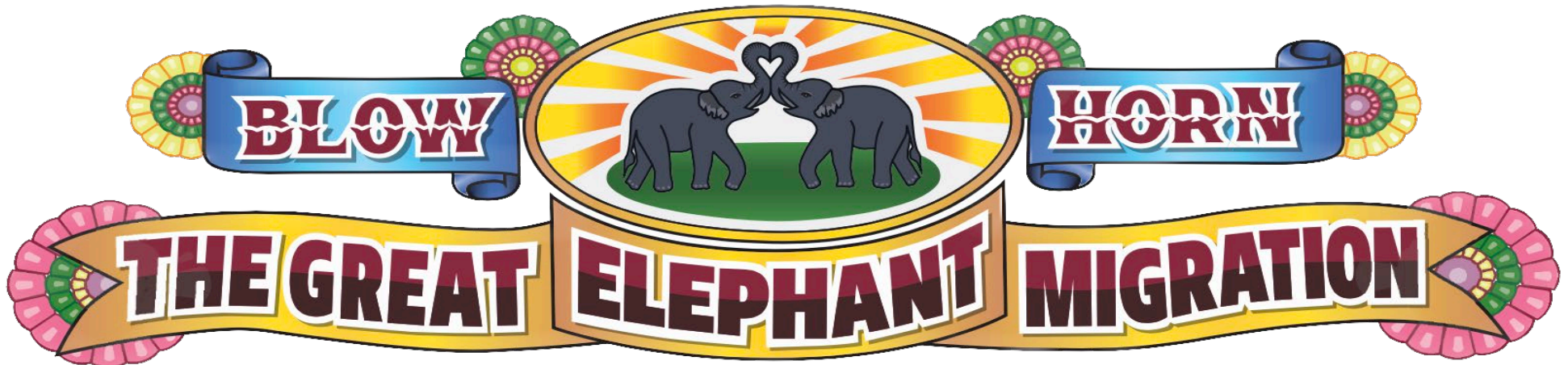
### Applying Osmo Oil:

**Preparation:** Ensure the elephant is completely dry before applying Osmo Oil. Ideally, the elephant should be placed indoors or under a waterproof covering during the cleaning and varnishing process.

**First Coat:** Using a wide brush, apply a thin, even coat of Osmo Oil over the freshly brushed lantana, allowing the oil to soak in.

**Subsequent Coats:** Wait a few days for the first coat to dry completely, then apply a second thin coat. Repeat this process for a third and final coat.

**Final Steps:** Allow the elephant to dry thoroughly before returning it to its outdoor display. Osmo UV Protection Oil Clear (420) can be purchased from Amazon. A 5L container is sufficient for 2-3 coats on our largest tusker.



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