

- **How can scotch moss grow on top of the pot of ginkgo when it is in sun? Doesn't moss like shade?**

In fact, Scotch moss is not a true moss but a herbaceous or evergreen perennial groundcover. It forms compact mats of ground-hugging foliage spreading to a foot or more wide and just 1-2 inches tall. Tufts of slender, subulate (awl-shaped) leaves cover thin, creeping stems. Starting in spring tiny star-shaped flowers develop & pop up sporadically through late summer. Following the flowers small green seed pods form turning brown & self seeding.

In our zone 8, it would be evergreen but with a very cold winter for us or down to zone 3 it is herbaceous. So don't give up on it come spring it will come back to life.

It thrives in full sun with moist (not wet) soil and good drainage. Keep in mind that in a pot with a tree you'll need to water according to both plants needs. The moss roots are only about 2 inches deep. Deeply water the tree every week or so then top water the moss.

Depending where you live and your microclimate you can position the pot to suit the Scotch moss to receive full sun. Depending on the tree by end of July thru mid August there should be leaf cover for some dappled sun during the hottest time of the day. With too little sun they become straggly, not compact & cushiony or puffy looking.

Sources

<https://www.thespruce.com/scotch-moss-plant-profile-5070467>

<https://hort.extension.wisc.edu/articles/irish-and-scotch-moss-sagina-subulata-and-arenaria-verna/#:~:text=Irish%20or%20Scotch%20moss%20is,regular%20water%20and%20excellent%20d%20rainage>