



DIY TERRARIUM

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

Create a miniature world from your imagination! These step-by-step directions explain the basics of making a terrarium.



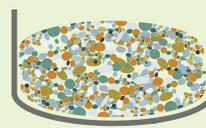
Materials

- container
- pebbles or gravel
- activated charcoal (find it in pet supply aisle, used for aquariums)
- window screen (optional)
- potting soil
- plants
- preserved sheet moss (optional for closed terrarium, find it in craft aisle)
- decorations (optional)

STEP 1 Decide whether you want to make a closed or open terrarium.



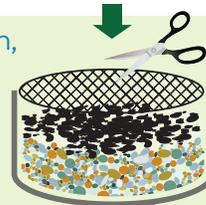
STEP 2 Carefully line the bottom with 1-2" of pebbles.



STEP 3 Place the charcoal in a central well of the pebbles. (Charcoal limits mold and odor.)



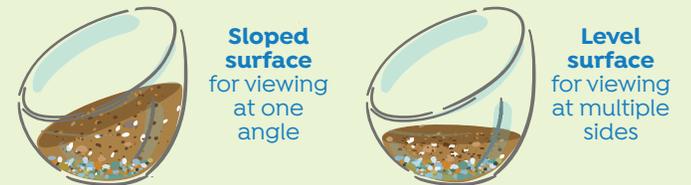
STEP 4 Cut a piece of small-mesh, window screen that reaches edge-to-edge of the terrarium. (The screen prevents soil from sifting down.)



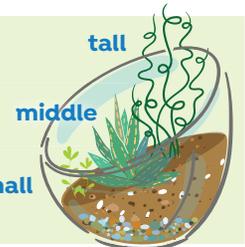
STEP 5 Add 2-3" of potting soil, until 1/4 of the container is filled. Use a soil mix that is appropriate for your plants.



STEP 6 Level the surface as needed.



STEP 7 Gently remove the soil from each plant's roots. Place the largest plant first and arrange shorter plants in front or off to the side. Sprinkle soil to cover their roots.



STEP 8 If planting a closed terrarium, now is the time to arrange the moss on the soil surface.



STEP 9 Get creative and decorate your terrarium with anything that is moisture-proof.



STEP 10 Water your plants and set the terrarium in a place where it will receive just the right amount of sunlight.



In the future, check and lightly water whenever the top 1" of soil is dry. Every so often, trim back the plants to maintain their small size and remove dead leaves.



Closed terrarium: Place in a well-lit location, *away from direct sunlight*.

Open terrarium: Place in a bright sunny location.

