

Creating Terrariums

Terrariums, if well-made, usually require little care for a beautiful return! There are however a few steps to careful planning.

Plant Choice:

- When considering plants usually an odd number for display makes for a better look aesthetically.
- One specimen plant or groupings of 3, or 5 work best.
- Colour or pattern variety gives a better look and draws the eye to details.
- Texture & leaf variety breaks up the monotony as well.
- Growth pattern variety gives a full, well established look to the planter, with growth at multiple levels. Try to put in a trailing or sprawling plant, a mid-level plant and a taller type.

Planting Needs:

Most terrariums have the following needs for successful growing-

- Good drainage provided by a layer of (possibly decorative) pebbles or gravel
- A layer of soil “sweetener”- activated charcoal to keep any water from stagnating & improves the health of good soil bacteria
- Natural filter- a small layer of peat/sphagnum moss to hold the soil particles in place. Also adds to soil nutrients as it slowly breaks down.
- Soil/Media- should be the right type & density for the plants used. (Tropical, cactus etc.) Adding worm castings is a great way to provide long term nutrients for the plants as well.
- Coverage- decorative pebbles, sand, bark chips. These hold down the media as well as helping to contain or prevent moisture (as needed)
- Décor- rocks, sticks, shells, ornaments, figurines etc. Create a theme!

Vessels & Types:

Anything you can stick a plant into! Jr’s past guppy tank can be a herb terrarium on the kitchen sill, Grandma’s teapot you can’t plant with as an ivy, the last margarita glass from your favorite set now has a rex begonia in it!

Have Fun With It, Be Creative!

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