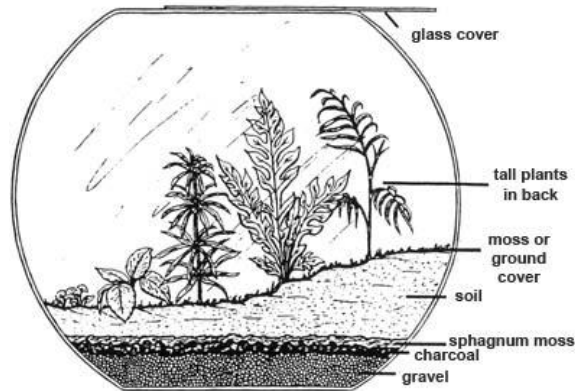


How to Create a Terrarium



Materials Needed:

- Container of your Choice
- Rocks or Pebbles
- Horticultural Charcoal
- Sphagnum Peat Moss
- Potting Soil
- Houseplants or Succulents/Cactus
- Decorations (optional)



Steps

- 1.** Since the terrarium is sealed, it is important to keep the base and the soil sterile. Either run a glass container through the dishwasher, or wipe down all surfaces with rubbing alcohol and water.
 - 2.** Build your terrarium by starting with a base level of pebbles for drainage.
 - 3.** Next, add a layer of charcoal, which keeps the soil clean and helps with any odors.
 - 4.** Add a thin layer of sphagnum peat moss over the charcoal. This helps keep the charcoal and potting soil separate to create your drainage.
 - 5.** A layer of potting soil goes next. (You can wet the soil a bit to make it easier to work with)
 - 6.** Create an interesting landscape with plants by choosing a variety of colors and textures for your terrarium.
 - 7.** Arrange plants in a pleasing display before putting them into the soil. Take into account any height variations of the cover. Fill in around the plants with more soil.
 - 8.** Water your plants with a misting bottle, this cleans the foliage off and starts the moisture process. The water will recycle itself. You do not want to water your plants with a watering can as it will make the soil too wet. You just want to make the soil damp.
- Disregard this is you are using a container without a lid: Wait about 12 hours before covering the plants so the water dries off the foliage completely.
- 9.** You will want to avoid using fertilizer as this will increase the plant growth and will cause you to have to trim and maintain the plants more often. **10.** Place the terrarium near a window but not in direct light, since that will produce too much heat and humidity, which promote disease.