

# Terrestrial Tarantula



## OVERVIEW



- Ease of Care: Beginner\*
- Size: Average 12-17cm (4-7")\*
- Life Span: Up to 15 years\*
- Diet: Insects
- Temperament: Mostly tolerant\*
- Background Temp: 26°C -28°C (78°F-82°F)
- HOT Spot: Not required

\*Depending on the species

## TOP TIPS

- ✓ Provide a suitable background temperature to allow the tarantula to function as normal.
- ✓ You may not see your tarantula drink but always provide a fresh water source for when it chooses to drink.
- ✓ Ensure the enclosure is well ventilated.
- ✓ Use 5-10cms of substrate to allow the tarantula to burrow and to provide a humid place for resting.

## EQUIPMENT NEEDED



- Housing: Glass Terrarium
- Heating: Heat Mat
- Lighting: LED Lighting (Light Cycle: 12 hours of light)
- Substrate: HabiStat Spider Bedding
- Water: Water Dish

## HOUSING

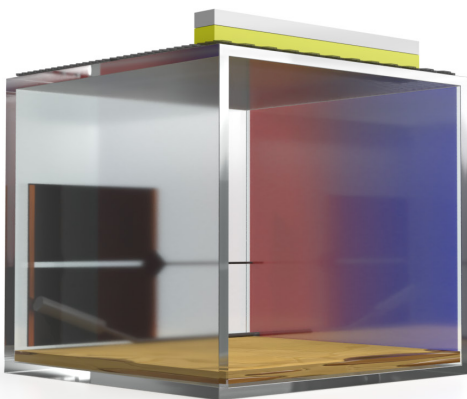


- A relevant sized Glass Terrarium is the perfect housing solution for a Terrestrial Tarantula throughout its whole life.
- HabiStat Glass Terrarium - 12 x 12 x 13 inches (HGT3032)
- Alternatively the HabiStat Spider Kit is the perfect set up kit for those just starting out with their first Tarantula.

## ENVIRONMENT



### Terrestrial Terrarium Setup



### Heating

Originating from a warm environment, Terrestrial Tarantulas require a warm background temperature within their enclosure to help them flourish.

A heat mat run on a thermostat is the ideal solution

for providing heat. The heat mat should be located on the outside of the enclosure, either on the back, or one of the sides (not on the bottom).

The heat mat should always be used in conjunction with a heat mat thermostat. Heat mat thermostats are designed to regulate temperatures using a thermostat probe (also known as a sensor). Correct placement of the probe is critical to avoid overheating and injury to the Terrestrial Tarantula. Insert the probe through the lid of the terrarium and tape directly to the inside of the enclosure adjacent to the heat mat. The probe cable should be taped 2-5cm (1-2") back from the actual probe sensor to allow for a correct temperature reading and avoid it becoming dislodged.

HabiStat Heat-Mat - 11 x 11 inches (HHM11)

HabiStat Mat Stat 300 watt - (HTMW1)

## Temperature and Monitoring

As a rough guide, day and night-time temperatures between 26°C -28°C (78°F-82°F) should be maintained. Always make sure temperatures are checked regularly to ensure there are no extreme fluctuations.

## Lighting

A LED Light should be used to provide a day and night cycle. As they are a nocturnal species ensure there are plenty of dark hiding areas to sleep away from the brightness of a LED Light.

## Substrates and Decoration

Personal choice will dictate how you decorate your Glass Terrarium, but we recommend the following as a guide:

- 1) Substrates: Terrestrial Tarantulas can be housed on HabiStat Spider Bedding (HSS5). This substrate will retain essential moisture, helping to maintain humidity levels. The tarantula will also be able to display its natural burrowing behaviour.
- 2) Wood for climbing and hiding under.
- 3) Artificial or live plants for decoration and to provide darker areas for the Terrestrial Tarantula to hide away in if it chooses.

## DIET & WATER



Babies through to adults should be offered appropriately sized insects. A tarantula uses its fangs to puncture its captured prey which renders it motionless. Digestive juices are then passed into the prey item which turns the insides of the prey to liquid, allowing the tarantula to suck up the nutritious juices.

A source of fresh water must always be available for these tarantulas, a piece of wet sponge or an insect gel can be used in a shallow dish to allow the tarantula to hydrate itself.

The substrate in the tarantula's enclosure should be lightly misted a couple of times a week (or as needed to maintain humidity) to ensure that the humidity is kept at around 60-80%.

## SUPPLEMENTATION



Terrestrial Tarantulas do not need to receive additional supplementation to their diet.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



Tarantulas are notoriously good at escaping. Ensure that the enclosure is fully secured as Tarantula hide and seek is not the best game to be playing!

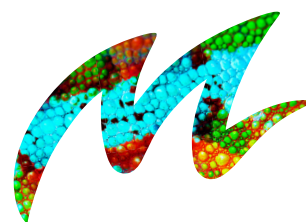
## HEALTH & HYGIENE



We recommend the following cleaning routine to keep your spider healthy and happy:

	Water	Substrate	Enclosure
Daily	Change old water for fresh water	Spot clean	Check vents / lid on enclosure are not blocked and allow air to pass through freely
Weekly	Disinfect water bowl or dish	Agitate substrate to prevent any bacterial build-up and to allow any dirty bedding to be removed	Wipe down glass with a reptile safe disinfectant
Monthly		Full substrate change	Wipe down inside the enclosure and disinfect décor with a reptile safe disinfectant

Always wash your hands, surfaces and equipment with warm water and disinfectant immediately before and after handling your Tarantula their enclosure and any other equipment.



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## HabiStat

