

# How to make a Terrarium

## You will need...

- A clean, clear glass container with small opening or lid
- Rocks or pebbles
- Soil or compost
- Activated charcoal (not essential but it prevents fungi from growing)
- Moss
- Plants
- Items to decorate your terrarium e.g. shells, pine cones
- Tweezers and a spoon to arrange the items inside your container (helpful if the opening to your container is small)
- A little water
- A warm, sunny spot to keep your finished terrarium



## Step 1 Plan your terrarium and collect your supplies

### Things to think about

- Which way up you want to container to stand?
- Will you have a theme e.g. Fairy garden, tropical island, Jurassic Park?
- Make a list of things you want to collect and go on a foraging walk in your local area
- If you collect stones or shells, give them a good wash before using them





## Step 2

Put a layer of rocks or pebbles at the bottom of your container. These help the soil to drain and prevent the roots of the plants from getting water-logged.



## Step 3

If you have access to some activated charcoal, add a ½ inch layer here. This helps prevent your terrarium from being overrun with fungi and it helps to filter the water. It's a good idea if you want your terrarium to last for years and years!



## Step 4

Fill your container up to about half way with soil. Think about how big the plants are that you will be adding and use this to gauge how much soil you need to make sure you can fit everything in.



## Step 5

Add your decorative bits and pieces to bring your design to life. Try to create a scene or landscape. You can watch how it grows and changes over time. You could write a story about the characters that live in the world you have created.



## Step 6

Give your plants a gentle sprinkling of water, they don't need much. Then seal the lid and pop your terrarium on a sunny window sill. Don't forget to check it regularly to see what has changed.

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