

TERRARIUMS

The arrangement

Origin; country or region: The original terrarium was invented by English botanist, Dr. Nathaniel Bagshaw Ward in 1842.

Sometimes referred to as a "garden under glass," terrariums make wonderful and impressive gifts, even for people who consider themselves plant-challenged. Regardless of a terrarium's size, it will have four levels including gravel, moss, soil, and plants.

Usage: There are many purposes for a terrarium.

They can be created purely for decoration, scientific observation, or plant propagation
STRENGTHS/OPPORTUNITIES:
Great for table tops or small spaces

WEAKNESS:

Needs regular tending
Some plants if not grouped well can die or wither



Bigger terrariums can handle houseplants that are somewhat larger but avoid fast-growing species or those with large leaves that can block the light needed by the smaller plants. When considering terrarium plants, look for plants that thrive in low to medium light. For visual appeal, choose a mix of leaf sizes, textures, and colors.

* Not on EMC list, Local botanical

A terrarium is an indoor gardening container that holds plants. It is usually made of glass that is fully or partially enclosed to allow heat and light to enter and confine moisture. The term "terrarium" is comprised of the Latin words "terra" (earth) plus "arium" (place or receptacle).

Care & Handling & Tips

Open terrariums are less likely to experience problems with condensation and fungal plant diseases than closed terrariums.

Choose terrarium plants with various foliage forms and heights that are small enough to fit in your container.

A terrarium container does not have drainage holes, so you'll need to create a drainage layer to keep water away from plant roots.

Add a layer of sheet moss over the stones and charcoal to keep the next layer, the potting soil, from mixing in. The moss also adds visual interest to your terrarium.

Before planting, decide on the design of your terrarium. Choose the spots where you'll place tall and short plants and where you'll create mounds and dips in the soil to create interesting contours.

If the terrarium has a narrow opening, use chopsticks, tongs, or long tweezers to place the plants into the terrarium and pat them in.

If you'd like, decorate the inside of the terrarium with small figurines, shells, decorative stones, or other whimsical accents spaced among the plants.



Select plants that won't mind the naturally humid environment of a terrarium. Avoid cactus and succulents in an enclosed terrarium—those plants work best in fully open containers filled with a potting mix

ORCHIDS,
ETC.