

**Closed terrariums** are self-sustaining ecosystems that require minimal maintenance, but they do need some attention to thrive. Here are some tips for taking care of a closed terrarium:

### 1. Light

- Place your terrarium in indirect or filtered sunlight. Direct sunlight can cause it to overheat, which may harm the plants. A bright spot away from direct sunlight works best.
- If you don't have a natural light source, you can also use a grow light.

### 2. Watering

- Closed terrariums require less water than open ones. They maintain humidity through condensation, so you don't need to water them often.
- Water only when the plants seem to be drying out or if the soil is visibly dry. Typically, this may be every few weeks, depending on the climate. When adding water, be conservative and add only a tablespoon or two at a time. Wait a couple of days and add more if needed.
- Enclosed terrariums should "rain" for an hour or two each day, but not all day. If condensation stays all day, remove the top for a few hours and replace it. Continue doing this until the terrarium balances out.

### 3. Humidity & Ventilation

- The closed environment will naturally create humidity, but it's important not to let it become too high. If the glass is consistently fogged up, air it out for a few hours by lifting the lid.
- If the plants start showing mold, mildew, or rot, it may indicate too much moisture. Reduce watering and ensure the terrarium gets a little ventilation now and then.

### 4. Pruning

- Trim dead or dying leaves to keep the terrarium clean and prevent mold growth.
- Remove any plants that have outgrown the space or are becoming overcrowded.

### 5. Temperature

- Keep your terrarium in a place where the temperature remains stable. Avoid placing it near heaters, air conditioners, or drafty windows.
- The ideal temperature is generally between 60°F (15°C) and 75°F (24°C).

### 6. Choosing the Right Plants

- Plants that thrive in a closed terrarium are typically moisture-loving species, such as ferns, mosses, ivy, and small tropical plants.
- Avoid plants that need dry conditions or too much direct sunlight, as they won't do well in the humid, low-light environment of a closed terrarium.

### 7. Cleaning

- Gently wipe the glass to remove any dirt or condensation. Use a soft cloth to avoid scratching the surface.
- Don't use harsh chemicals—just water or a mild vinegar solution if necessary.

A little observation goes a long way. Watch for signs of distress in the plants (yellowing leaves, mold, etc.), and adjust care accordingly. Keeping the terrarium in a balanced environment is key to creating a thriving closed ecosystem!

