

# TERRARIUM RECIPE CARD

Project  
Level: Easy

## Materials

- Container: 10 Gallon glass aquarium
- Mesh Screen lid
- Clay balls or gravel
- Eco Earth
- Tree branches or bark to provide climbing areas
- Sphagnum moss
- RO Water or Water conditioner to treat tap water
- Aquarium Thermometer
- Aluminum foil or plastic wrap
- Clean spray bottle used only for water
- Heating pad
- Garden snails
- Calcium powder

## Food

- Romaine lettuce and other high vitamin content veggies sliced Do not use spinach, onions or citrus
- slice of apple or potato for moisture (water)
- oatmeal or some type of grain for food

## Recommended Temperature and

**Humidity:** In the wild decomposers prefer dark moist warm areas. Keep tank between 70-80°F (21-26° C) Do not warm tank by exposing to sunlight or heat lamp, use a heat pad under or on the side of the tank to warm the tank. Keep the humidity at a high level.



## LAND SNAIL HABITAT

**Set up:** Rinse clay balls or gravel in a bucket or tub until water runs clear. Layer the clay balls into the bottom of the tank, taking up the first 5 cm so that the tank has a drainage area. Next layer about 6 cm of moistened Eco Earth. Do not over saturate the Eco Earth, it should be moist but not muddy. Arrange tree bark or branches on top of the soil so that the snails have something to climb on. Moisten sphagnum moss and arrange over exposed Eco Earth area. The moss will help the environment to keep moist and help the soil retain water. Cover terrarium with the mesh lid so that the snails will not escape. If air in the surrounding environment is arid (absent of humidity) cover half of the mesh lid with aluminum foil or plastic wrap to retain moisture in the terrarium.

**Maintenance:** In this tank you will need to make sure that too much food does not rot or mold within the aquarium. A tank going through decomposition should not have a strong rotten smell. Any badly rotting or molding food should be removed. However snails are pretty ravenous and will probably devour the food you put into the tank. Soil must be kept moist and tank should be sprayed with RO water at least once a day. This tank runs the risk of attracting fruit flies and gnats. If they become a problem, you can attract the fruit flies to an open container of vinegar near the tank.

**Care:** Place veggies in tank for snails to consume. They should have a mixture of leafy veggies and hard veggies to keep maintain their appetite Sprinkle calcium powder on veggies occasionally to support healthy shell growth. You can use a heating pad under the tank to keep terrarium at a warm temperature during the winter. The tank should remain moist at all times if you want the snails active. Dry tanks will keep the snails dormant, they will revive with water added to the tank.

**CAUTION:** Do Not Release these creatures into the environment as they are highly invasive species. They can keep dormant without water for up to two years. If you no longer wish to keep the snails they can be fed to other animals as food or euthanized by freezing. Some states require a USDA permit to study land snails.