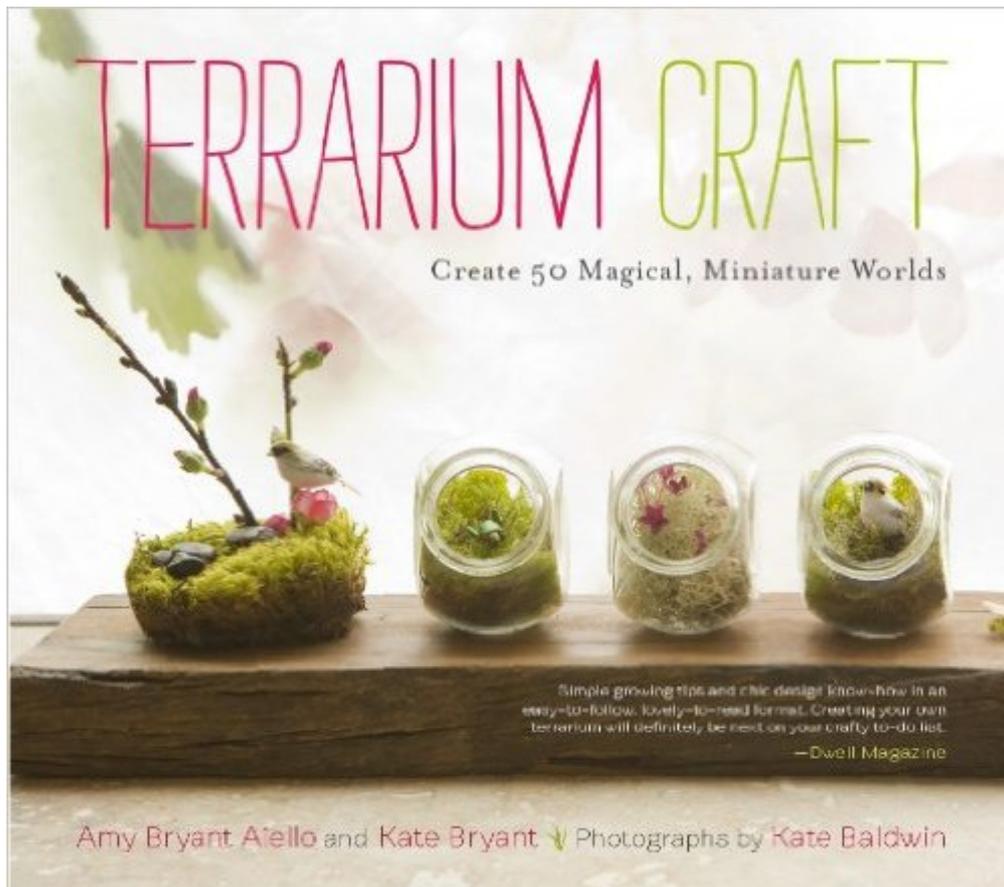


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# Terrarium Craft: Create 50 Magical, Miniature Worlds



## Synopsis

A terrarium is nothing less than a miniature worldâ”one that you can create yourself. It might be a tiny rainforest, with lush foliage and bright tropical flowers. Or a desert, with strange succulents planted among colorful stones. Or a Victorian fernery. Or a minimalist composition with a single, perfect plant. Or it might not contain any plants at all. It might be made with crystals, feathers, bones, seashells, bits of wood, porcelain trinketsâ”anything that catches your fancy and helps create a mood or look. Whatever they contain, terrariums are the ultimate in modern, affordable, easy-care décor. Terrarium Craft features fifty original designs that you can re-create or use as inspiration for your own design. Each entry comes with clear step-by-step directions on how to assemble and care for your terrarium. Youâ”ll also find helpful information about selecting a container, using appropriate materials, choosing the right plants, and maintaining your terrarium. (Hint: Itâ”s easy! In fact, many terrariums are self-sustaining, requiring no maintenance whatsoever!)

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book really is something to look at, but doesn't offer a whole lot more. Based on the other reviews here, it seems that most of the other readers were happy with this book as a 'coffee table' book. (Although the size, binding, and general quality of the book does not lend itself to this purpose.) If you are looking for a beautiful book to flip through you will not be disappointed. If however, you are looking for a craft or (dare I say) gardening book with the practical how-tos on how to create living terrariums look somewhere else. Most of the arrangements in this book are purely

fanciful. To recreate them look you will need a bevy of hard to locate specialized decorative materials and even then your creation will not be destined to live very long. (To her credit the author does give a sort of disclaimer at the front of the book that "terrariums are not forever", actually you can keep a terrarium for some time, if it is designed to meet the needs to the plants, which these are not.)

My love for terrariums goes back to the 1970s when those large, spaceship-style plastic orbs were so popular. *Terrarium Craft* by Amy Bryant Aiello and Kate Bryant is a wonderful book that has inspired me to bring some updated terrariums back into my home. What I liked most about the book is that the authors' creations are from found materials. Instead of expensive Wardian cases, this book shows how to create beautiful scenes from a variety of glass objects you may have around the house or something you will be able to pick up at a thrift store. The authors provide good instructions for choosing containers and the proper planting materials to provide for a healthy environment for added plants. There are many pages of inspiration for natural and unique materials to add beauty and charm to the desired scene. Plants and mosses are also explained. There are full-page sized photographs of most of the designs. I especially appreciate the photographs that show step-by-step how to assemble the terrarium. There are 50 terrarium projects with a list of contents and instructions for assembly. They are divided into four groups based on inspiration - Forest, Beach, Desert, and Fantasy. If you are not a plant person, some of these are so pretty that you don't need to add plants! Just in case you don't have time to hunt and gather supplies, there is a list of resources to purchase a variety of plants, mosses, and décor. This is a wonderful book for inspiration and instructions for creating terrariums. It would also make a nice gift book.

I bought this book on the understanding that it's about how to make and maintain terrariums, the plants to choose, etc. I thought, as the name suggests, that it was a book about "terrarium craft". However, this is not a book about making terrariums, but a catalogue of the authors' "creations in a bottle" - most of which are not even terrariums. The name and the introduction on the cover are misleading, and it will be a disappointment for those seeking a book on 'terrarium craft', as I did.

Mostly just pictures of terrariums. Very little actual info on what to consider when designing a terrarium, most "instructions" were just descriptions of what the author had done - things like "I found this old such-and-such and just \*knew\* I had to turn it into a terrarium)"

I love this book - I keep picking it up and dreaming of what I might create from it - very inspiring! It takes you through all the steps in creating different kinds of terrariums, and is full of terrific photos. It is one of those wonderful books that you can lose yourself in and whets the imagination. You'll never look at a jar or vase the same way again! Truly fascinating little universes!!

Really nice pictures. Good explanations. I have already made several terrariums and given them as gift. I look at this book over and over.

For those who enjoy creating small landscapes, this book offers interesting ideas, some traditional and some unusual, with how-to basics. By presenting a variety of terrariums, it is meant, I think, to not suggest the copying of its ideas so much as to act as inspiration for developing one's own ideas, which any good "how-to" book should do. The amount of enjoyment and information one derives from the book will probably depend on how skilled one already is in developing terrariums. Those well-versed in terrarium craft may not find it as helpful and inspiring as those who are beginning to work with terrariums, who will likely find encouragement in it as well as the fun of creating small landscapes.

I have seen some books receive bad reviews for changes in formatting or omission or augmentation of photos, but this one isn't suffering from that. I read it on a Kindle Fire, so the color pictures are wonderful. You can also enlarge the photos to full-screen and/or "zoom" in on them. When the pictures are zoomed up close, they start to pixilate, but I think that its not so bad. You can still see well. The portion of the book referring to a specific terrarium design may be before or after the photo(s), so I flipped pages a bit, but they flip so fast I didn't mind. So if you're thinking of getting it on your Kindle Fire, I say go for it. If you have a black and white Kindle, I think you'd be losing a lot of the beauty of this book. The book itself, outside of its Kindle formatting, is wondrous. I've read it three times since I bought it yesterday or the day before. I don't even know, I've been sucked in. The author is very empowering and inspirational as well as instructional. She made some terrariums that I didn't love for my home, but I can still see their beauty. Since I got it I've made four terrariums for three of my orchids and one of my african violets. This book also got me inspired to start taking care of carnivorous plants again after many years without any. If you like plants and contained ecosystems (and maybe even silliness), you will like this. Note: this book is more about inspiration than technical instruction. It gives instruction, but in a way that assumes that you are generally competent.

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