

## Plants & Animals

Gardening and plant and animal features

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# Teacup Fairy Garden

A fairy garden is a very small garden made with little objects and living plants. These miniature plots lure fairies and, thus, “good luck” to your home. In our version, we use a teacup and some found objects to make a visually interesting mini garden that is cost-effective and easy to care for.

### You will need:

- A variety of succulents or small houseplants from your local nursery. Good selections might include jade, “hen and chicks,” aloe, air plant, sedum, and micro ferns. However, many small cuttings will also do.
- A variety of teacups (with or without saucers) and/or mugs. Check your local thrift shop. You can also recycle chipped cups. Don’t worry about drainage holes. The small succulents and houseplants can survive in a solid container as long as the soil has time to dry between waterings.
- Small objects or figurines. Look around the house, at garage sales, and in thrift stores. You might be amazed at what you can find. Use old board game pieces, ceramic figurines, small toy animals, miniature doll furniture, Legos, a small sign on a stick that says “welcome,” etc.
- Other accents, such as small stones, pebbles, glass gems, seashells, marbles, and moss
- Potting soil



Print a [picture of a completed fairy garden](#) to show the group. Post a copy on your bulletin board to create interest in the activity.

## **Directions:**

1. Put a little soil in the bottom of the cup.
2. Select one or two plants and stand them up in the cup. Gently fill in the empty space of the container with potting soil. Adjust the plants so that the stems are covered but the top of the plants are exposed.
3. Add small figurines and other accents in between the plants.
4. Place a bit of moss in one corner and add a couple of pebbles to make a path for the fairy.
5. If you have a saucer, decorate it also. For example, place the cup on the saucer and surround it with some moss around the cup. Add small clay mushrooms or other accents.
6. Place your garden in a sunny spot and water when the soil is dry (usually not more than once per week depending on your climate).

## **A Perfect Gift**

Fairy gardens make perfect little “thank you” gifts for nurses, care staff, administration, or volunteers. Give your fairy garden to someone special and attach a small thank-you note from the group.

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