



MASTER GARDENER – STEARNS COUNTY

Miniature Gardens

GETTING STARTED

Building a miniature garden is more than purchasing adorable decorative figurines and items; it is also important to research plant material and understand care. But don't forget to get creative and have fun!

The following information provides suggestions for ideas, using materials on hand or found in nature as well as helpful links to other resources, none are endorsed or supported by the University of Minnesota Extension Master Gardener Program they are purely to serve as useful resources.



HELPFUL RESOURCES

IDEAS

- <http://www.bhg.com/gardening/container/plans-ideas/mini-garden/#page=0>
- <http://gardentherapy.ca/miniature-garden-ideas/>
- <http://edenmakersblog.com/?p=5140#sthash.3yvY42X0.dpbs>
- <http://www.lushome.com/miniature-garden-designs-fairy-gardens-defining-new-trends-container-gardening/109289>
- <http://www.hgtv.com/design/make-and-celebrate/handmade/a-fairy-container-garden>
- <http://www.fleamarketgardening.org/2014/05/17/how-to-create-a-fairy-garden-in-a-container/>
- <http://www.midwestliving.com/garden/container/miniature-garden/>
- <http://www.birdsandblooms.com/blog/container-ideas-miniature-succulent-fairy-gardens/>
- <http://www.fleamarketgardening.org/2014/03/05/diy-fairy-gardens-our-complete-list-of-ideas/>
- <http://ngb.org/downloads/files/Guide%20to%20Fairy%20Gardens1.pdf>
- <https://tonkadale.com/fairy-gardens/>

WHERE TO PURCHASE MATERIALS

- http://shop.miniaturegardenshoppe.com/Miniature-Garden-Plants_c20.htm
- <http://www.fairygardenstore.com/>
- Local nurseries are a great place to find plants and ideas
- Craft and hobby stores– watch for sales!

PLANTS AND CARE

- <http://empressofdirt.net/plants-for-miniature-gardens/>
- <http://www.outdoortheme.com/gardening/plants-for-miniature-gardens/>
- <https://minigardener.wordpress.com/2012/03/14/miniature-garden-plants-secrets-to-success/>
- <http://miniaturegardenshoppe.com/TipsTech.html>
- http://twogreenthumbs.com/about_miniature_gardening.html
- http://www.plowhearth.com/blogs/fairy-garden-basics-soil-and-plant-selection.aspx#.V5U_iTX_-T8
- http://www.bachmans.com/divHomePage.ep?currentNodeBean=GardenCare&categoryCode=02&pageIndex=pageIndexToken_fancifulGardens

MATERIALS ON HAND TO USE

- Flat marbles or 'gems' for 'water' or stepping stones
- Golf tees and marbles for tiny gazing balls
- Small sticks and pine needles for a broom
- Wire, steel or copper, shepherd's hooks or joining twigs
- Popsicle sticks for fences or furniture
- Stones for paths
- Clay for bricks
- Willow sticks for chairs and arbors
- Balsam wood for doors, benches and tables
- Christmas decor for houses, vehicles and fairies
- Tiny gravel for patios
- Larger gravel for stone walls or tiny house facades
- Moss, lichen for bushes and trees

OTHER HELPFUL TIPS

- Container will determine your design/theme
- Remember your container needs drainage
- If container has large holes, try lining it with coffee filters
- Potting soil
- Trowel or spoon to work soil
- Small plants – try cutting slips from plants you already have
- Spray bottle to mist
- Corks, cans, bark
- Miniature decorations – purchased, created from nature, found around house

