

Fairy Gardens

Materials:

- shallow pot or bowl
- potting mix
- small pebbles or stones
- 3 or 4 baby plants
- small terracotta pot
- craft paints (acrylics work well), brushes and foam shapes
- craft glue
- modge podge or pva glue to seal the paint on your fairy house
- handy garden tools and gloves



Directions:

Fairy Garden Base

Place a layer of small stones or pebbles in the bottom of your pot (for drainage - to keep the roots of your plants from constantly sitting in a pool of water) and fill with good quality potting mix to approximately 1 inch or 2.5 cm down from the lip of the bowl.

Fairy House

This bit will be fun for the kids and probably should be done a few days or a week before you put your garden together.

Fairy Gardens (cont.)

Set the kids up with some acrylic paints in a range of colours on a craft table with a selection of brushes - some foam and some normal brushes - to paint their upside down terracotta pot to look like a little house.

Once they are happy with their houses, set them aside to dry before decorating them with any craft bits and pieces you have around to make their creations truly unique. You could use small pebbles, twigs, leaves, nuts or feathers from the garden, craft mosaic tiles, cardboard shapes, papier mache shapes (like a mushroom top made from papier mache) or perhaps a draining base upside down as the roof, anything you have in your craft cupboard really.

Once dry you finish the fairy houses by sealing them with a coat of modge podge or a mixture of PVA glue and water.

Planning the Layout of your Fairy Garden

Once you have all the components of your garden ready and you have prepared the base, you can help the kids work out where to place all the components of the garden.

Caring for your Fairy Garden

Your garden will need to be cared for, it will need at least some sunlight (how much depends on your plant choices) and regular watering. You might also need to either trim or replace your plants if they outgrow the bowl.

