

MY FIRST HERMIT CRAB

THESE ARE A FEW SIMPLE FACTS TO ENSURE YOUR HERMIT CRAB LIVES A HAPPY AND HEALTHY LIFE...

DIET:

A balanced diet is required for keeping your hermit crab healthy. They are known as scavengers and will eat whatever they may find but keep in mind what you are feeding them. Fresh fruits and vegetables should be given daily.

- ♥ Apples, Banana, Berries, Pineapple, Pears, Cantaloupe, Banana
- ♥ Carrots, Broccoli, peas and corn
- ♥ Fish flakes (High in protein), Blood Worms

BATHING:

Preferably two dishes of fresh and saltwater should be added to their tank otherwise at least once a week your hermit crab should be bathed in "Hermie Salt bath" this will help put the much needed salt back into their system which they don't get in captivity. Place a water dish in their tank with the salt and leave it overnight to make sure your hermit crab uses it, replace with fresh water in the morning.

The container should be deep enough to get most of the shell wet .If the container is a bit deeper it is a good idea to have rocks in the tank to assist them to get out or a sloping tank so they can get to the shallow end

Fresh water should be given daily - condition their fresh and salt water with water neutralizer to remove the chlorine.

ENCLOSURE:

When purchasing a glass tank keep in mind how many Hermit crabs you may want. They will need enough space for their toys, food and water dishes. Hermit crabs require the high humidity. The humidity can't be any lower than 70% otherwise this can be extremely harmful to your Hermie, this can be monitored by using a thermometer and a humidity gauge. Hermit crabs love to climb! Keep your tank exciting and change it around, add new toys when cleaning out their home. This is a list of what you will need for their tank.

Requirements:

- Temperature 24-30 degrees celcius
- Substrate 3-5 times higher than the largest shell
- To choose shell size, the opening should be the width of the crabs pincher
- Better to get at least 2 as they are social animals
- 1 Crab needs about a 4-5 litre tank

- If reusing the sand put it in the microwave to kill any potential bacteria present
- Vinegar is suitable to clean the tank
- ♥ Carefresh bedding (Keeps them warm)
 - Substrate should allow them to easily dig, and not cut or irritate their skin
- ♥ Can use sand
- ♥ food and water dish
- ♥ Hermie bath salts-Don't use Table salt as it can have other additives harmful to the crab
- ♥ Sponges (Place in their water dish, hermites love to climb and drink the water that the sponge absorbs)
- ♥ Shellgrit (High in calcium)
- ♥ Wooden bridges- not pine material as this can irritate them

MAKE SURE YOUR WATER DISHES ARE SHALLOW ENOUGH SO YOUR HERMIT CRAB WON'T DROWN AND WILL BE EASIER FOR THEM TO CLIMB IN AND OUT.

Provide your hermit crab with enough spare shells, they are extremely picky! Give them enough option when it comes to them choosing. (Do not disturb your hermit crab if they changing shells). They will bury themselves into the substrate to moult. This can take a couple of weeks try not to disturb them during this process as the stress can damage them.

LIFESPAN:

Hermit crabs can live to 10 - 30 years if given the proper care

They may moult once a month or once a year depending on their size



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