

One of the most important pieces of better terrarium care starts with understanding how moisture is cycled. In short, moisture changes phases as it travels from the soil, up through the plant's roots, getting released by the leaves in the form of vapor, collecting on the glass as droplets that slide down the glass back into the soil at night.

Okay, that was a lot. The process of photosynthesis and transpiration is magical. You will see this in action though, and it's important to recognize how the terrarium responds to changes. Once a location or temperature shift happens, moisture or fog can appear in the top of the glass. This is normal so long as the container is once again set in a proper location.

What exactly is the proper location? Luckily terrariums do well in most places that have comfortable indoor temperatures and adequate lighting. When finding the right spot, it's important to make sure the plants will be able to get at least 4-6 hours of light

per-day and moderate dark time as well. Near a window, but not in the sun, or under timed lights is fine. If the terrarium is happy, you should see some moisture on the cool (non-light facing) side of the glass. Notice how much moisture is there and how long it stays.

A good habit to get into is rotating the container once the condensation has been on there for a few days. It is not necessary to do so frequently, but it will help you recognize the difference between normal water cycling or potential issues.

If the contents of the glass are hardly visible due to heavy moisture, open the lid for 10-15 minutes. Avoid doing this often as it leads to decreasing moisture levels overall. Instead try to identify the cause, keeping in mind to adjust the position of the terrarium according to the ambient light and temperature in the room.