

HERMIT CRAB



Coenobita spp.

Hermit Crabs can make fascinating pets that are quite nary when kept in the proper conditions. They are social creatures that do well when kept in groups. Most of the hermit crabs in captivity are of the Atlantic variety also known as tree crabs.

Adult Size 3-4"

Life Span 10 years

Habitat

- A 10 gallon aquarium is sufficient for a group of 4-6 crabs.
- Hermit crabs require a humidity level of 70-90%
- Hermit crabs love to climb, therefore branches should be placed throughout the terrarium.
- Hermit crabs must always have access to shells that are larger than the ones they are in.

Temperature

- 78-84F Ambient temperature
- Night temperatures can drop to 70-72F.

Lighting

- Hermit Crabs do not require any UVB lighting, however they do benefit from a day/night light cycle.

Substrate

- A mix of 2 parts sand and 1 part coconut choir (plantation soil) works extremely well for hermit crabs.
- The substrate should be at least 3" deep for burrowing while molting.
- The substrate must remain damp, but cannot be soaking wet either.
- The cage should be lightly misted every day.

Nutrition

- Hermit crabs are omnivorous scavengers that will eat a variety of foods.
- Many commercial hermit crab foods exist and are a good choice.
- Vegetables, Peanut Butter and fish flakes are also readily accepted by hermit crabs
- Hermit crabs require access to both fresh and saltwater to remain healthy.