

# General Tarantula

Please Note That This Is A General Account Of Care For Tarantulas

If you desire a specified care sheet for your pet or potential pet tarantula,  
please contact The Iso Psycho

<u>Average Adult Size</u>	4.5 to 11 inches
<u>Average Life Span with proper care</u>	Females- 36 years;  Males- 7 - 12 years;
<u>Diet</u>	Insectivores

## Enclosure

### Medium Used in Enclosure

#### Substrate

One to three inches of substrate such as sterilized potting soil or bed-a-beast.  
Burrowing tarantulas will need a deeper substrate.

### Habitat for Enclosure

Offer at least a good hiding spot with some bark

*Optional decorations to make the cage look more natural: Plastic or silk plants,  
branches, backgrounds, rocks, and vines.*

### Temperature and Humidity Control used in Enclosure

69°F - 75°F

*If you have a centrally heated room which stays at that temperature all the time then  
you won't need extra heating during the winter, but you will between spring and  
autumn when the heating is switched off.*

Red Lights are best for providing a comfortable display visual for you and  
your pet

*If you must have a display light, the best lighting is a red light, leave it on at night  
when they're most active. They are very sensitive to the blue wavelength of light so  
at all costs avoid black lights or blue lights as this will cause them unneeded stress  
UV lighting may look cool but you don't want to shine that directly onto your  
tarantulas.*

## Humidity Levels Differ Greatly Upon Species

*Humidity levels range from 60% (Chilean rose, Mexican red knee) to 80% to 90% (Pink toe). Humidity can be maintained by placing a water bowl in the terrarium with a rock in it to prevent crickets from drowning and fouling the water.*

## Diet

### Live(Optional)

#### Gut Loaded Insects Every 4-7 Days Depending On Age

*Appropriately sized live insects, such as gut-loaded (recently fed) crickets, mealworms, superworms, roaches. Be sure that food is smaller than the tarantula; pink toes eat small crickets; remove any uneaten live food as it may cause injury to a resting tarantula.*

## Water

#### Constant source of hydration recommended

*Fresh, clean, chlorine-free, and shallow water dish. should be available at all times; may not drink from a bowl but will rely on moisture on plants.*

## Exercise

#### Basic exercise that these animals can benefit from

*They will climb or burrow at will. Depending on species, allow for either climbing opportunities or burrowing opportunities.*

## Temperament

#### Handling IS NOT RECOMMENDED For Most If Not All Species

*A tarantula's first act of defense is to withdrawal or retreat. If this doesn't work the spider will kick hairs at its attacker.*

*A tarantula kicks hairs by using its back pair of legs to repeatedly rub the abdomen and shake loose hairs. It will then flings these hairs in the direction of its attacker. This defense is enough to discourage most attackers. In humans these hairs can cause a painful, but temporary rash.*

*The tarantula does have a venomous bite, but its venom is designed to take down prey smaller than itself. The bite of a pet tarantula is similar to that of a bee sting.*

# Want Plants In Your Enclosure For Your T?

## Here's Some Tips!

### Live

So here's the thing about plants with your tarantula. It's hard to say what goes and doesn't go with them in a broad spectrum. So before anything, research your specific tarantula and figure out where they're native to.

Once you figure that out, it gets a lot easier!

Another thing to keep in mind is how much water the plant needs. It may end up being the humidity from the soil that hurts your T, rather the toxicity of the actual plant itself. So find something that also is able to survive in the same humidity levels as your T. Which is where researching where they're from comes in handy. Most T's can't have too much humidity, so a good plant to try and pair with your T would include a spineless succulent or pothos. Non-toxic and can survive in dryer environments. Also be sure that if you have a plant in with your T, there is more than enough ventilation to help maintain a proper humidity level

Also, fair warning, many many plants have been sprayed with pesticides or release toxins that will harm your T, so if you get a live plant, you must wash the entire thing from root to tip.

When setting it up, it could help to have a no heat grow lamp depending on the plant you choose. That way it doesn't mess with your temps for your tarantula, but your plant can still get what it needs to be healthy and happy. However, don't forget that your T probably doesn't like light much, so if you do this, be sure there's plenty of hiding spots that are shady and can properly hide them from the brightness.

### Fake

If you want something easy to care for and just add some decor and color to the enclosure, fake plants are a win as well. They won't die, easy to clean if mold occurs (which let's face it, it can happen to anyone), and you won't possibly infest your enclosure with mites or other unwelcome little critters. All you have to do is give them a good wash, stick them in the enclosure, and you're done!

We suggest silk just so that there's not much for the tarantula to get hurt with.