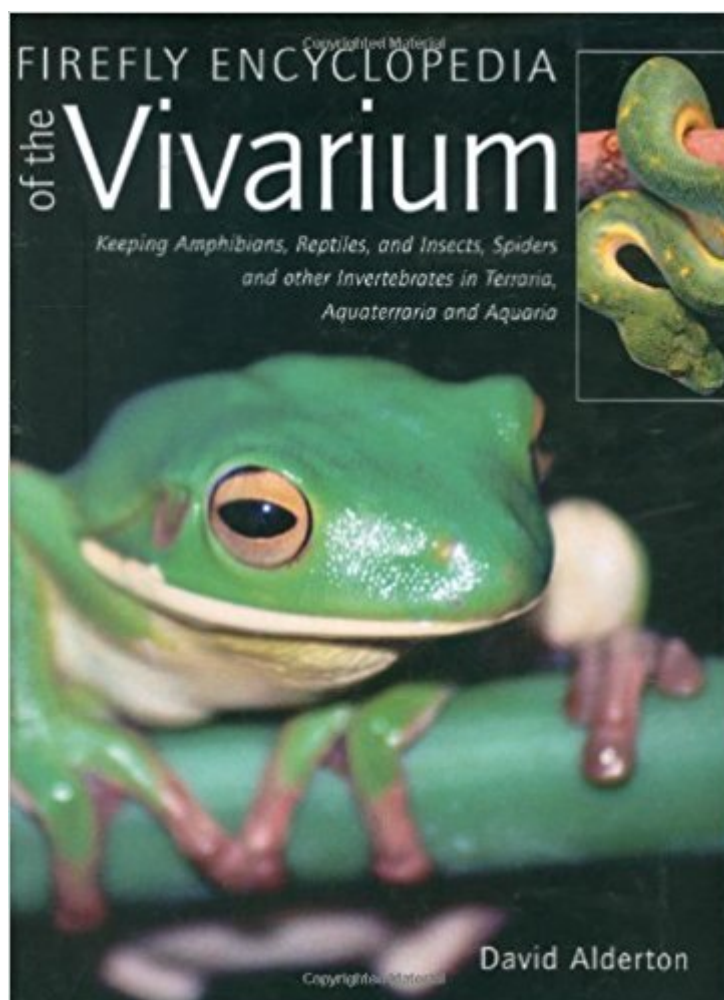




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Firefly Encyclopedia Of The Vivarium: Keeping Amphibians, Reptiles, And Insects, Spiders And Other Invertebrates In Terraria, Aquaterraria, And Aquaria





Synopsis

Keeping iguanas, frogs, insects and other invertebrates in a glass world is a popular pursuit. This practical, fully illustrated guide has everything the enthusiast needs to know, with a focus on beginners. A one-stop reference for those starting out with a terrarium or vivarium, it covers the entire spectrum of suitable animals, from invertebrates to large snakes and lizards. David Alderton explains how to design setups that re-create natural habitats, as well as more clinical environments for closely monitoring difficult or delicate species. A brief account of some of the more suitable vivarium plants and their requirements is also included. The book is divided into three main sections -- Reptiles, Amphibians and Invertebrates -- with extensive cross-referencing between them. There are detailed presentations on all key areas: Basic biology Housing Equipment Controlling the environment Furnishings: clinical and naturalistic Checklist of plants and methods of planting Food and feeding Breeding Health. A comprehensive directory of species provides specific information on breeds suitable for beginners. This easy-to-use, illustrated volume presents all the most up-to-date information in a single volume, giving the enthusiast a complete reference.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This reference book contains everything one would need to know about maintaining an indoor environment for live amphibians, reptiles, and invertebrates. Full-color photographs and images of species and care instructions, along with thorough descriptions and directions, make the book easy to understand. The introduction contains information that new owners may be unaware of, such as being wary of using indoor sprays, which can be fatal to the animals. The main text begins

with "The Natural History of Vivarium Animals." This is followed by "Vivarium Setup and Maintenance," an extremely thorough section describing various enclosures, general care, heating and cooling agents, types of food, breeding, health care, and more. More than 300 species of amphibians, reptiles, and invertebrates are described in three separate sections. Each entry is listed by common name, with mention of the scientific name. The Eastern painted turtle entry, for example, contains a description followed by information on distribution, size, accommodation, behavior, diet, and breeding. Important small details, such as water temperatures for breeding and hatching, are not overlooked. The book's one-page glossary is not exhaustive but is sufficient, since the language used throughout is not technical. The list of further reading cites texts on specific animals along with Web sites. The index lists both common and scientific names. With its vibrant photographs and easy reading level, this text is suggested for school and public libraries that are in need of a basic guide. Jerry Wall's Vivaria Designs (BowTie Press, 2007) is useful for those looking for something more advanced.

--Kristen Mastel

This reference book contains everything one would need to know about maintaining an indoor environment for live amphibians, reptiles, and invertebrates. Full-color photographs and images of species and care instructions, along with thorough descriptions and directions, make the book easy to understand... Contains information that new owners may be unaware of... Important small details ... are not overlooked.... With its vibrant photographs and easy reading level, this text is suggested for school and public libraries that are in need of a basic guide. (Kristen Mantel Booklist 2008-02-12)

This gorgeous book helped me decide whether to establish natural or "silk" environments for my frogs. What a great resource!

this book helped us out so much when we were creating a vivarium. we have now had it up and running well for a little over a year.

For me this book is a wish list of reptiles I would like to have. It is full of colorful pictures and bios about the animals in the book. A must have if you plan to live with reptiles.

Very deep, great book on the care of reptiles and amphibians. Superbly written with lots of great photos. Brilliant guide to the health and happiness of your critter friends.

It's not the best Reptile and Amphibians book, but it gives you a very good idea of the animals and their needs. Most of the described animals don't have a picture, so you really don't get the complete idea of them. It's a good starter book, but certainly not for those that already know the basics for reptiles and amphibians.

This book only skims the very surface of reptile husbandry and the profile of vivarium animals are not well explained, if at all. There's barely any info on how to set up an attractive vivarium and it's also lacking many things a good reptile husbandry book should have (nutritional values of foods, supplementing frequency, lighting & heating brands, etc). I've also seen some wild-assed speculation (WAS) on certain areas; it often leaves the reader confused. There are also several husbandry errors and outdated info. The only thing positive I can say about this book is the abundance of full color pictures. If you must buy this book, please don't use it as your only source of info.

This book was a complete waste of my time. Fortunately I got it from our local library. The selection of animals is quite limited with some taxa not even featured with a photo. It is more about animals than plants or vivaria per se, and yet, as said, the animals receive only cursory treatments. What is this book for? I suspect it exists to sell books for the company and is not in existence to help new vivaria-ists. Stay away!

Great book. Great pictures! Very educational. Highly recommend if your looking for a broad viv info.

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