

Hermit Crab

Latin Name	Coenobita cylpeatus
Native to	Carribean islands
Maximum Length	2–6 inches
Life Span	10 years or longer
Enclosure	<p>Use screen-glass top combo terrarium or screen top with removable cover panels to maintain humidity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 10 gallon for up to 6 small crabs• 20 gallon or larger for up to 4 larger crabs <p>Provide shelter and climbing options such as a half-log, plants, or mopani wood. Also provide 1 or 2 slightly larger shells for growth.</p>
Substrate	Use a blend of sand (VitaSand) and coconut fiber (EcoEarth) to maintain humidity and allow digging. Deep sand (6 inches) allows crab to molt comfortably.
Temperature	day 78–83°F, night 78–73°F infrared heat lamp, heating pad
Light	nocturnal/crepuscular Ambient light or incandescent/LED lighting for viewing, 10–12 hours daily.
Humidity	tropical, 70–90% Use a fogger or mist crabs with distilled water 2 times daily. Keep substrate moist.
Water	Provide purified water in a shallow dish and clean saltwater in a separate dish.
Food	omnivorous scavenger Feed daily: commercial crab food and any combination of produce such as chopped collard/mustard greens, chard, cabbage, tomatoes, carrot, corn, zucchini, apples, bananas, strawberries, peaches, or melon. Dust food with calcium powder twice weekly.
Molt Cycle	small crab: every 1–6 months adult crab: once a year, during summer ▲ Crab may bury itself for days or weeks when molting. Don't disturb it.
Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Remove waste, sift substrate if dry enough.▪ Clean water bowls, replace water, both fresh and salt.▪ Clean water dish, provide new food.