

THE GREEN WORLD IN A GLASS VESSEL

Natalya Drobchenko

Candidate of Architectural Sciences, Associate Professor of the Department of Landscape Design

n.drobchenko@samdaqu.edu.uz
<https://orcid.org/0009-0003-3488-481X>

Shakhzoda Bobozhonova

*Master student of Samarkand State University of Architecture and Construction named after Mirzo Ulugbek, Uzbekistan,
shaxzodabobojonova880@gmail.com*

Abstract. Florarium is an amazing combination of plants and glass, creating miniature ecosystems in an enclosed space. This trendy decorative element not only brings beauty to the interior, but also allows you to enjoy wildlife in any space. The article discusses the creation of florariums, which types of plants are suitable for growing in them, as well as their advantages. However, there are some problems that need to be taken into account so that the florarium does not lose its beauty.

Keywords: florarium, plants, nature, succulents, vessel, cultivation

Introduction. A florarium is a miniature garden grown in a glass container. It can contain various types of plants, creating a unique atmosphere and an attractive accent in any room. Florariums can be open or closed. Florariums are whole small worlds that bring nature directly into the interior, becoming a living beauty in the interior [1], (Fig.1).



Fig. 1. Florarium

(https://dg-home.ru/blog/oranzhereya-v-miniatyure-cto-takoe-florarium_b423329/)

Florariums can be diverse - from miniature gardens with succulents to aquatic ones with shells and moss [2]. It all depends on the preference and style of the interior itself.

According to the composition, florariums are:

- **simple**. They are also called mini-florariums. They are distinguished by the simplicity of the composition, the small volume of the container and the number of plants. From one to three plants are planted in such a florarium. The easiest way to create a mini-florarium is to fit it in an ordinary glass or jar. It is often used as a desktop decor.
- **complicated ones**. These are real microecosystems that simulate a piece of forest, desert, mountains, jungle, garden. They can consist of more than three plants, various natural elements and artificial decor.

According to the location of florariums there are:

- **suspended**. They are suspended from a certain support using hooks and rope. They decorate banquet halls, patios in a country house or are used as an alternative to curtains. There are suspended florariums in the form of Christmas tree toys and lampshades.
- **wall mounted**. Such florariums resemble "living" paintings covered with a glass hemisphere. They have a one-sided composition: tall plants in the background, and short plants in the foreground. Sometimes they are installed in false walls or partitions.
- **desktop**. Florariums are placed on a horizontal surface (these can be tables, curbstones, window sills, shelves, etc.). Such mini-gardens can be moved and arranged according to the interior design.
- **outdoor**. Such florariums have large and complex compositions. They usually decorate the interiors of public places: restaurants, shopping malls, salons, hotels, etc.

I will consider the components for the florarium:

- **container for the florarium**. It is selected in shape and size relative to the place where it will be placed. The florarium can act as an aquarium or a stylish terrarium. Transparent glass can be from two to four millimeters thick [2].
- **plants**. They must be selected so that they "live" well in the conditions of the florarium. These can be succulents, aerial plants, mosses, lichens and other species that do not require frequent watering [3].
- **drainage**. To ensure the removal of excess moisture, a layer of gravel or expanded clay is placed on the bottom of the container.
- **decorative elements**. When making a themed florarium, you can add picturesque stones, glass pebbles, shells, tree bark, stabilized moss, colored sand, artificial figurines, various epoxy resin decor.
- **soil**. The soil can make up a special mixture for planting plants in a container.
- **the location of the plants**. To create a harmonious composition of plants in the florarium, it is necessary to take into account their size and appearance.
- **maintenance of care**. In the florarium, it is necessary to maintain an optimal level of humidity and lighting, ventilate it and monitor the condition of plants [4].

Advantages of the florarium:

- **decorative**. Florariums are a stylish and original element of the decor.
- **uniqueness**. Each florarium is unique both in form and composition.
- **ease of care**. The plants in the florarium require minimal care.
- **positive impact**. Observing wildlife in the florarium promotes relaxation and improves mood.

A variety of plant species can be grown in the florarium, including:

- **succulents**. Echeveria, pachyphitum, sedum, pachyveria, graptoveria and other light-loving and shade-loving succulents [5], (Fig.2).



Fig. 2. Succulents in the florarium

(<https://roomflower.ru/poleznoe/florarium-s-sukkulentami.html>)

- **moisture-loving plants.** Mersin, ivy, fittonia, hamedorea, ficuses and other moisture-loving species [3].

- **decorative deciduous plants.** For example, alokasia, fittonia, violets, cyclamen and others that get along well together and do not require complex care [6].

These types of plants are suitable for creating beautiful and well-groomed florariums, adding lively greenery and the atmosphere of nature to the interior.

Florarium is not just a decorative element, it is a real art that brings a piece of nature to the life of the interior. However, the beauty of the florarium must be maintained.

The disadvantages of florariums are:

- **the fragility of the material.** The walls of the glass florarium can break, and the plastic ones can crack, due to improper handling.

- **sealed bottom.** Due to the lack of a pallet, water in the florarium accumulates under the roots, so you can not water the plants a lot.

- **limited selection of plants.** The size of the florarium tank and the special growing conditions in the mini-garden are not suitable for all plant species.

- **selection of unsuitable plants.** Some plants, such as cyclamens, episciae, and Usambara violets, can rot in florariums, especially if they are not equipped with special devices [7]. Orchids require special care, including spacious florariums with lighting and ventilation system. Therefore, when choosing plants, it is necessary to take into account the choice of plants and their proximity to other plants.

- **rotting of the roots.** Insufficient ventilation and excess moisture can lead to rotting of plant roots [4].

- **the need for special tools.** It is more convenient to take care of miniature florariums with small inventory.

Florariums are an amazing combination of nature and glass, which brings beauty and vibrant energy to the interior of any room. These miniature gardens not only decorate the space, but also contribute to the creation of comfort and harmony around you. Creating a florarium is not just a process, it is an art that allows you to express your individuality and creative approach to interior decoration [8], (Fig. 3).



Fig. 3. The wonderful world of the florarium
(<https://moss-florarium.ru/articles/uhod-za-zakrytym-florariumom>)

Thus, having considered all the components, we can say that:

- Florariums have become a popular decorative element due to their uniqueness and beauty.
- The selection of suitable plants, containers and decorative elements plays an important role in creating a stylish florarium.
- Taking care of the florarium does not require much effort if it is properly maintained.
- Florariums not only decorate the interior, but also contribute to creating a cozy atmosphere and bring nature closer to us.

Creating a florarium is an opportunity to add a piece of wildlife to our daily lives and enjoy its beauty and tranquility every day.

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