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TARANTULA CARE

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- surface or refuse to walk on it. It is not suitable for burrowing but can be used in conjunction with hides and man-made burrows.
- Potting soil is another alternative, but care should be taken to make sure it does not contain fertilizers.
- Coconut fibre (coir) can be used for spiders requiring humid environments.
- There is also a selection of commercially available substrates, suitable specifically for tarantulas.

Unsuitable substrates

- Sand is too abrasive and can lead to damage of the cuticle.
- Gravel may cause damage to their feet and poses a risk should they fall.
- Wood shavings/bark chips may lead to mite infestations and aromatic wood contains volatile oils which can irritate spiders. They also do not allow for burrowing.

TEMPERATURE

Many sources recommend temperatures of 23 30°C(74 88 F). However, supplemental heat other than room heating in winter is not normally required. Heat lamps and heat pads are unnatural and can lead to desiccation of the substrate and spider. The most important consideration is not the temperature per se, but to avoid significant temperature We recommend the use of maximum and minimum digital thermometers to record temperature variation