

# New Habitat

By:Andy Portilla

# Define and Explore Bearded Dragon Habitat

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# Bearded Dragon Habitat- Define

**Goal:** Create a comfortable habitat for my bearded dragon to live in

## **Primary Functionality**

- Stress Free Environment
- Allows for all of his needs to be met
- Is comfortable

## **Secondary Functionality**

- Provides a nice atmosphere to the room
- It looks nice
- Easy to clean

Constraints:

- All decorations must fit the tank size
- Must be within budget
- Fits a color theme



# Bearded Dragon Habitat- Overview

## Overview:

Because I have a smaller tank my habitat will have to be a bit more compact, which means less room for decorations.

## Pros

- Two Basking spots
- All around heating
- Good use of space
- Budget Friendly

## Cons

- Bland and not colorful
- Less room for water and food plates

## Takeaway:

Make sure to implement more color and background



# Bearded Dragon Habitat- Overview

## Overview:

Because I have a smaller tank my habitat will have to be a bit more compact, which means less room for decorations.

## Pros

- Nice basking spot with heat
- Very pretty looking
- Good use of the fountain

## Cons

- Might be hard to clean
- Needs more vertical space

## Takeaway:

Very easy to buy and set up the deco



# Bearded Dragon Habitat- Overview

## Overview:

Because I have a smaller tank my habitat will have to be a bit more compact, which means less room for decorations.

## Pros

- Super nice color and theme
- Lots of basking spots
- A lot of decorations

## Cons

- Might be hard to clean
- Needs space for water and feeding bowls
- Not very budget friendly

## Takeaway:

This would involve more DIY than the other examples



## Takeaways:

- Vertical space is the key
- Make sure my basking spots are high off the ground
- Amazon is a good resource for most of the decorations
- I need to figure out how much my budget is
- I plan on combining multiple designs into one for both aesthetic and practicality
- I need to make sure that whatever design I choose to go with, the feeding bowls must be accessible

DIY:



# Ideate and Design

2.23.21

# Key Features

## PRIMARY FUNCTIONALITY:

-Is a stress free environment

-Looks nice in my room

-Provides a comfortable environment for my Bearded Dragon

## Key Features:

### 1. CAVE

Known: Will be below heat source

Unknown: Whether its a good fit for him

### 2. Vegetation

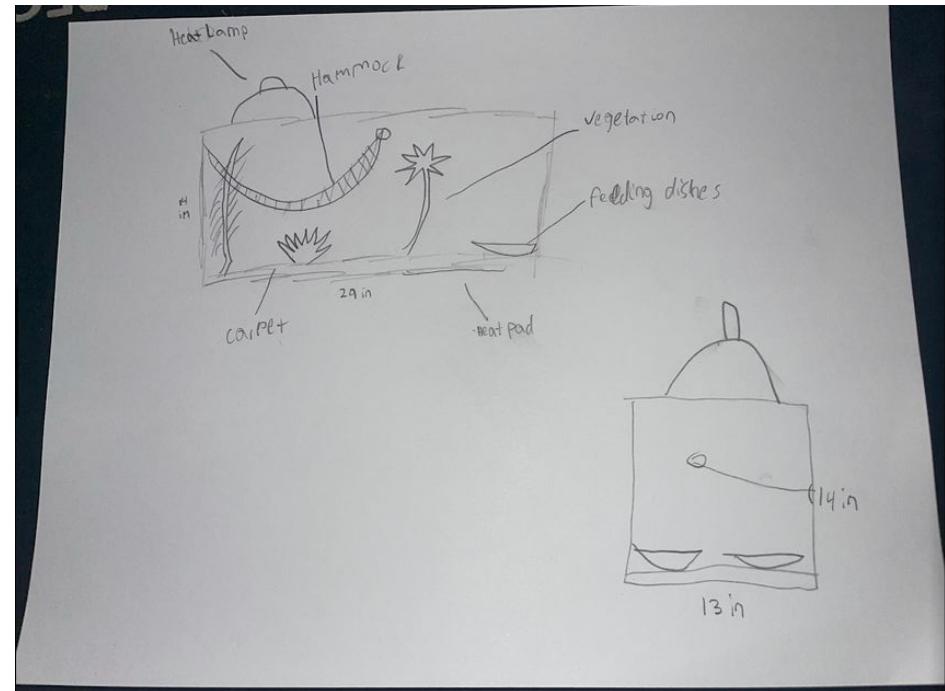
Known: It will be cheap

Unknown: Where to put it

### 3. Carpet

Known: Will have to be cut

Unknown: Size that I will have to cut it to



# What does it have to fit with?

## MUST HAVE:

Feeding Bowls

Basking Spot

Water Bowl

Heating Element

## WANT TO HAVE:

Vegetation

Hammock

Wallpaper

# Build, Test, Evaluate Prototype

3.17.21

# Prototype Build

## ***Approach:***

- I took an Amazon Box and measured how long I needed to cut it
- I marked the corners
- I then proceeded to cut my measurements.
- Holes were pierced through the box for the shoelace to attach to the frame

## ***Something I liked:***

- The shape of the box allowed for very little work to be done to it, all I had to do was cut it.

## ***Something I will not do again:***

- I will make sure to get rid of the stickers next time



# Prototype Test 1

## ***Test objective:***

- To see if he can fit in the box as well as if he likes it.

## ***Test method:***

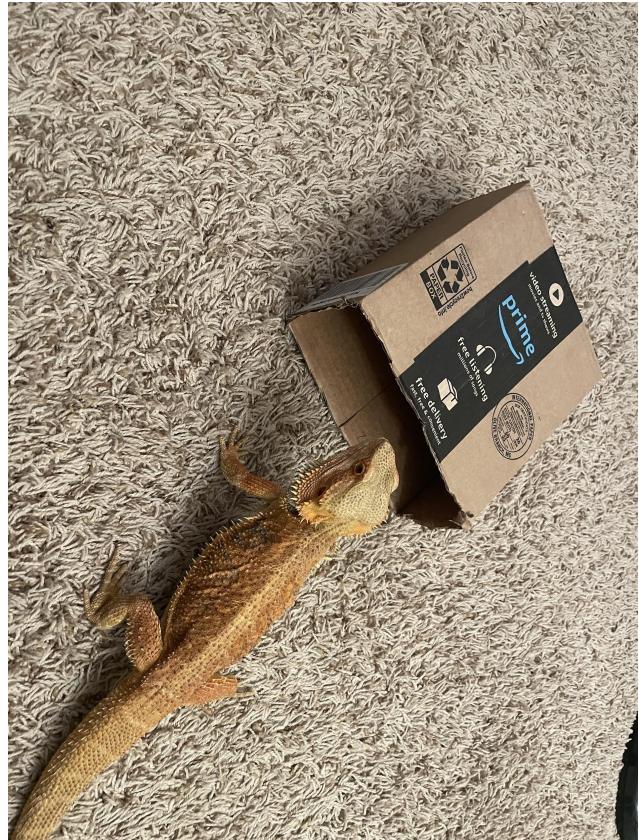
- I set him down in my room with the box in the middle of it to see if he had any interest in going in

## ***Test criteria for success:***

- He walks in
- He fits

## **Evidence: (see pictures)**

- Observation: Unfortunately he did not want to get in the box, but after coercing with food he barely fit.



# Prototype Test 2

## ***Test objective:***

- See how it affects him in his habitat.

## ***Test method:***

- Place hidebox in his enclosure

## ***Test criteria for success:***

- Reduces anxiety
- New spot to sleep
- Actually uses the box

## ***Evidence: (see pictures)***

- In the first couple of days he wasn't the biggest fan of the box, and he would often sit next to it.



# Prototype Test 3

## ***Test objective:***

- Expose him to the box for the break

## ***Test method:***

- Let the box sit in his enclosure for a while and see how he adjusts

## ***Test criteria for success:***

- He ends up liking it

## ***Evidence: (Picture taken today)***

- He really enjoys the box and is slowly starting to become his favorite place to bask.



# Phase 1 Prototype Evaluation

## *Aspects of my prototype that I like:*

- I really liked that I could use recycled materials
- I also liked that I had the perfect box for it

## *Aspects of my prototype that I did not like:*

- I don't think that the design is overall that good because of the height
- I did not like how I couldn't really take off the stickers.

## *Improvements for the next iteration*

- Find a bigger box or make a trapezoid
- Sturdier and thicker box
- Find a way to decorate it.



# Rough Draft

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# Rough Draft Test

## ***Test objective:***

- To test whether Zilla can fit comfortably in the hide box

## ***Test method:***

- Place the box down and put food down to get Zilla to go in the box

## ***Test criteria for success:***

- He can fit in it

## ***Evidence:***

- See Pictures

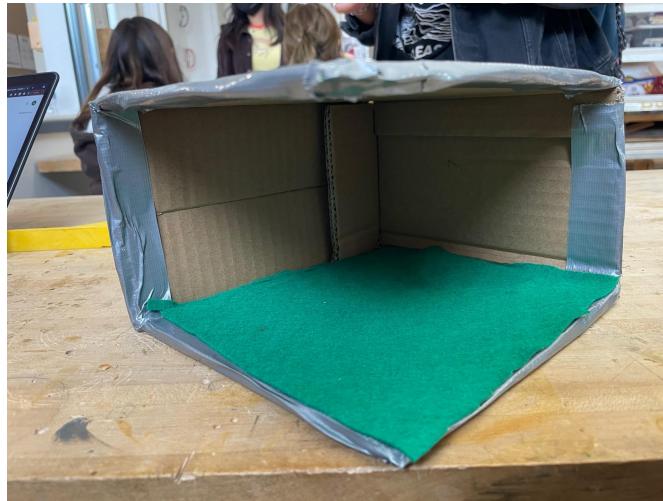


# Final Draft

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# Design

- One of the key features of my design is the sidewall of the hide box being open as well as the green felt lining the floor.
- Something that influenced the design was, my bearded dragon's size.



# Build

- Something that went well was my material choice, cardboard was the perfect material for my project because it's tough enough to support Zilla without the danger of things like splinters if I had used wood.
- The first steps I took to building my project was measurements and finding a strong recyclable material. For my first draft I used an amazon box, because of its durability and size.



# Testing

- My testing methods consisted of having Zilla interact with the hidebox in his environment for certain periods of time.
- I made sure to test for two things:
  - Does Zilla like the box?
  - Can it withstand his weight?



# Evaluation

- My project accomplishes all of my primary goals, like being a good basking spot as well as a good decoration.
- I really like how my final looks, and I am very glad that I added green felt to my final design.

