

# HOW TO MAKE A BUG HOTEL

LEEDS BECKETT UNIVERSITY

**CARNEGIE  
GREAT  
OUTDOORS**

Bug Hotels help to encourage beneficial insects to visit your garden



## WHAT YOU NEED

Your Bug Hotel can be made from lots of different materials you may find in your home, garden or garage such as:

- pallet planks
- wood off cuts
- old bed slats
- old skirting board
- weather board
- wood from old drawers
- wine boxes etc.

You'll also need some wood glue or a hammer and nails to fix it all together.

## HOW TO MAKE IT

- First make sure you have an adult to help you
- Screw together a basic square or rectangle from four pieces of your wood.
- If you have them, you might want to add L shape metal angle brackets or thick pieces of wood into the inner corners for extra strength.
- Add some vertical or horizontal partitions inside the frame to give the Hotel different 'rooms'.
- Make a roof from an overlapping apex to avoid cutting angles on the timber ends. It should stick out beyond the hotel a few inches to keep the rain off the bugs.
- Place the frame flat onto a piece of old wood and draw round it to create a back, then cut out and attach it to the rear of the frame.
- Finally add your roof and your Hotel frame is ready to fill!



## HOW TO FILL IT

Inside your Bug Hotel you can use lots of natural items found in your garden such as:

- twigs
- sticks
- moss
- bamboo
- bark
- pine cones
- mulch
- leaves

You can also recycle items you might find in your house or garage such as:

- scrap wood with holes in it
- cardboard toilet rolls
- thick cardboard which you can roll up
- wooden lolly pop sticks
- leftover pipe
- old paper
- string

## WHERE TO PUT IT

- Bugs like to live in dark nooks and crannies but you should place your Bug Hotel somewhere that is South facing if possible, so that the Hotel gets some warmth.
- Try to pick a spot that has water and sources of nectar such as flowering plants nearby.

Hopefully within a few days your Hotel will be full of lovely bugs, beetles, ladybirds and critters!



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