

Complete Guide to Birdhouses

How to Make Them, Place them and other practical tips!

Welcome to my guide on birdhouses and attracting birds,

So you've decided that you want a birdhouse or birdfeeder. There are many questions you may need to ask, such as do you want to buy one or do you want to build a birdhouse? How many birdhouses should you put up in your garden? Where in your garden should you put them?

Also, what you can do to help birds make nests? How do you keep predators from taking over? What food should I supply to wild birds? This guide will answer these questions and more by providing you with the knowledge to build your very own birdhouse easily.

Also provided is a step by step guide on building your very own bird table and feeder. I hope you enjoy my guide half as much as I enjoyed writing it! Happy birdwatching.

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Complete Guide to Birdhouses

How Many Bird Houses to Put Up?

A friend of mine recently spread out the fourteen birdhouses she had been making and asked for help in deciding where to put them in her backyard. Unfortunately, her yard was on the small side so I had to let her know that perhaps she should pick only a few to put up. Of course, she could have put them all up but only a few would have been used by the birds during nesting season.

The types of birds that will nest in your yard or property are determined partly by the habitat that you have. Many trees and dense shrubs in your neighborhood and yard will attract the forest-loving birds while open expansive fields will attract different ones. Obviously, no matter how wonderful a house you built for flickers, they will not set up their home in your yard if you live on a treeless prairie. If you have a mixture of habitats, you may be able to attract a great number of birds to houses as well as to your feeders.

Also many birds establish territories of land and trees where they will not tolerate other birds. Some types of birds allow other species of birds to share their territory. Still other birds, such as Tree Swallows or House Martins, love to have lots of other birds of the same type around. Remember, you can put up a number of houses for different types of birds.

Birds can be a bit choosy in their future home. Some will inspect several houses before deciding on a particular one. You may wish to give the birds a few to look over in your garden, knowing that only one will be occupied. By giving them a choice, you might keep them from choosing that other one in your neighbor's garden!

Favorite Nesting Materials of Wild Birds

A very labour-intensive activity for birds is building nests. They must first select a nesting site, find all the materials they need, carry them back to the nesting site, and then construct it. All of this is extra activity that must be done in-between their normal activities of find food and water. Give the birds in your area a helping hand by providing a stash of nesting materials from which they can choose.



Place the nesting materials in piles on the ground if they won't blow away. Otherwise, put them in suet cages or in string bags so the birds can easily get to the nesting materials.

Here are some things you can put out:

- Thin twigs
- Dog hair (I put out the hair from my dog after she is groomed)
- Human hair (put out the hair you pull out of your brush)
- Thin strips of cloth, about an 1 wide and 6 inches long
- Feathers
- Long dried grasses
- Yarn, thread or string cut into 4 inch lengths
- Pieces of cotton
- Long wilted leaves from daffodils, tulips or iris
- Fuzzy lint from your dryer
- Strips of cellophane or cut up plastic sacks
- Spanish moss
- Pine needles
- Strips of fabric softener sheets

As well as using the above materials, the birds may also use butterfly wings, flower petals, spider webs, snake skins, horse hair, and other found materials, even some of their own feathers to make the nest or to line it.

Some birds use mud to construct their nests. Keep a muddy puddle in your garden available for their use.

Wood to Build Bird Houses and Feeders

What You Need to Know

You've decided to make a new bird feeder or bird house for your garden. What wood do you select for durability and safety for the birds?

You should NOT use any type of pressure-treated wood since the chemicals used are toxic to birds. Be wary of any painted wood that you want to recycle into a feeder or house. You need to make sure that the wood was not treated with creosote nor painted with a paint containing lead, again for the birds' safety.

There are many types of wood that you can choose. Pine, cedar, redwood, spruce and poplar are good choices. All are easy to work with and can be built into a fine feeder or house, lasting for many years.

Select an exterior grade of wood, about 3/4 inches thick. This type of wood will give a sturdy feeder or birdhouse and will stand up to rain, ice and other elements of nature.

From rubbish to Riches - Projects to Attract Birds to Your garden

Need some new birdhouses, feeders or birdbaths for your garden? A little short of money this month? Here's some fun ways to use discarded items or common items in your backyard to make items to attract birds.

Saucers from old clay pots become birdfeeders or baths when filled with seed or water. Save mesh bags that hold onions or fruit. Fill with homemade suet or peanuts in the shell. Or cut up short strips of cloth and stuff lint (from clothes dryers), cotton and the cloth strips into the bag to provide nesting materials for the birds in your backyard.

Nail an old garden glove, boot, or sneaker to one of your birdfeeder platforms so the open part of the glove is at the top. Stick some branches into the glove so that birds have places to perch while waiting their turn at the feeders.

Attach an old garden hat to the side of one of your feeders. Make a bouquet of sunflowers, coneflowers or other flowers with seed that birds enjoy. Wire the bouquet to the garden hat or even place in that old garden glove along with the branches.

Fun and Easy House to Build

This chickadee birdhouse or nesting box is a great way to get started making birdhouses. You do not need to mitre any edges and the entire project can be completed using one 6 foot length of 1" x 6" lumber.

Since only simple materials and tools are required, this birdhouse is also a wonderful project for Scouts, youth groups, and beginning woodworking classes.

Materials needed:

Wood cut to the dimensions shown in A above

Finishing nails

1 eye screw

Wood screws

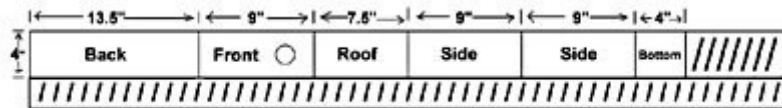
Directions:

Cut the wood to the dimensions in [diagram A](#).

All of the pieces can be cut from one 6' length of 1" x 6" lumber.

1. Cut the front entrance hole as in [Diagram B](#). This is an oval shaped hole that is 1 3/8" wide and 2 1/4" long. To begin cutting this hole, mark the dimensions on the front. Then drill one 1 3/8" circle at the top. Repeat at the bottom of the hole, overlapping the drilled holes.
2. Drill two small holes near the top of each side for ventilation.
3. Drill four small holes on the bottom for drainage.
4. Using finishing nails or wood screws, secure one of the sides to the bottom. Then secure the front and back to the same side.
5. Slip the 2nd side into place. Secure using two nails, one near the top on each side. These nails will be pivots so make sure they are across from each other.
6. Reach inside the box and push the bottom of the 2nd side outwards, making sure it can pivot outwards. If it is too tight, remove the nails and sand the edges so it is a bit smaller. Repeat until the 2nd side will pivot outwards. See [diagram c](#) for
7. Screw the eye screw near the bottom of the 2nd side. This screw is to make it easier for you to open the box occasionally to monitor it as well as to clean it out at the end of the season.
8. Drill a small hole through the front near the bottom into the 2nd side. Push a bent nail (I have a few by this point!) into the hole to keep the 2nd side closed. If you wish, use a small wood screw instead of the nail.
9. Nail or screw the roof to the nest box.
10. Mount the bluebird nest box to a pole, fence post, or tree. Be sure to use some type of predator guard to keep squirrels, cats, foxes, and other creatures from harming the nestlings.

DIAGRAM A



Lumber: One 1" x 6" x 6'

- 1 Back 4" x 13.5"
- 1 Front 4" x 9"
- 1 Roof 4" x 7.5"
- 2 Sides 4" x 9"
- 1 Bottom 4" x 4"

DIAGRAM B

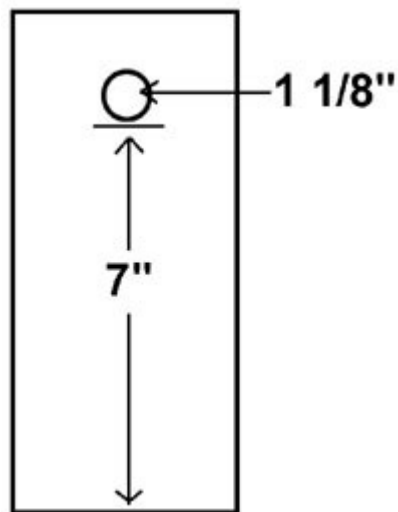
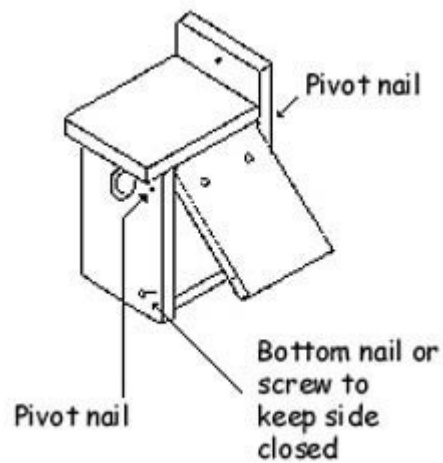


DIAGRAM C



Build a Bluebird Nest Box

Easy Box to Make

This bluebird nesting box is a great way to get started making birdhouses. You do not need to mitre any edges and the entire project can be completed using one 6 foot length of 1" x 6" lumber.

Since only simple materials and tools are required, this birdhouse is also a wonderful project for Scouts, youth groups, and beginning woodworking classes.

Materials needed:

Wood cut to the dimensions shown in A above

Finishing nails

1 eye screw

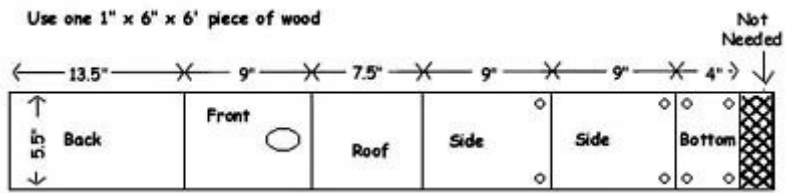
Wood screws

Directions:

1. Cut the wood to the dimensions in **diagram A**. All of the pieces can be cut from one 6' length of 1" x 6" lumber.
2. Cut the front entrance hole as in **diagram B**. this is an oval shaped hole that is 1 3/8" wide and 2 1/4" long. To begin cutting this hole, mark the dimensions on the front. Then drill one 1 3/8" circle at the top. Repeat at the bottom of the hole, overlapping the drilled holes.
3. Drill two small holes near the top of each side for ventilation.
4. Drill four small holes on the bottom for drainage.
5. Using finishing nails or wood screws, secure one of the sides to the bottom. Then secure the front and back to the same side.
6. Slip the 2nd side into place. Secure using two nails, one near the top on each side. These nails will be pivots so make sure they are across from each other.
7. Reach inside the box and push the bottom of the 2nd side outwards, making sure it can pivot outwards. If it is too tight, remove the nails and sand the edges so it is a bit smaller. Repeat until the 2nd side will pivot outwards. See **diagram C** for
8. Screw the eye screw near the bottom of the 2nd side. This screw is to make it easier for you to open the box occasionally to monitor it as well as to clean it out at the end of the season.
9. Drill a small hole through the front near the bottom into the 2nd side. Push a bent nail (I have a few by this point!) into the hole to keep the 2nd side closed. If you wish, use a small wood screw instead of the nail.
10. Nail or screw the roof to the nest box.

Mount the bluebird nest box to a pole, fence post, or tree. Be sure to use some type of predator guard to keep squirrels, cats, foxes, and other creatures from harming the nestlings.

Diagram A.



- 1 Back 5.5" x 13.5"
- 1 Front 5.5" x 9"
- 1 Roof 5.5" x 7.5"
- 2 Sides 5.5" x 9"
- 1 Bottom 5.5" x 4"

DIAGRAM B

Hole

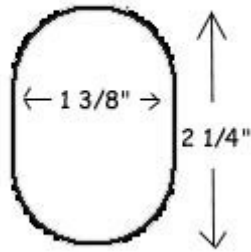
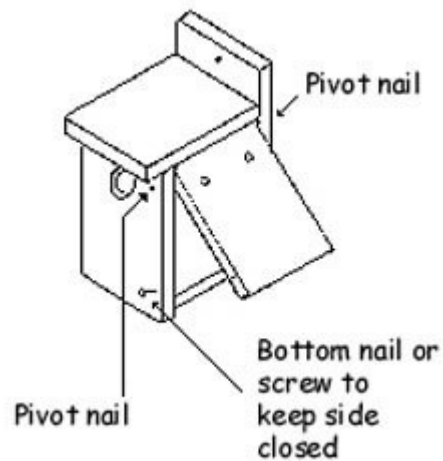


DIAGRAM C



Robin and barn swallow box



Robins, barn swallows, and many other birds do not use traditional birdhouses or nest boxes since they are not cavity-nesting birds. In the wild, these birds build their own nests. Robins nest in trees while barn swallows will build nests of mud, straw and twigs. Here is a wonderful and easy nesting shelf that Robins, Barn Swallows, and other small birds may use. This nesting shelf is a great way to help these birds out when there is a lack of nesting sites as well as to attract them to your backyard.

Since only simple materials and tools are required, this birdhouse is also a wonderful project for Scouts, youth groups, and beginning woodworking classes.

Materials needed:

Wood cut to the dimensions in the link above
Hanger
Nails or wood screws

Cut the wood to the dimensions below. The dimensions are based on 1/2" plywood.

Pieces and Dimensions Needed

CUT:

1 Back 4" x 6.5"
1 Front 4" x 1.25"
1 Roof 5.5" x 6"
2 Sides 5" x 7"
1 Bottom 4" x 4"

NOTE: The dimensions are based on 1/2" plywood. If you use a different thickness of wood, adjust the dimensions accordingly.

If you use a different thickness of wood, adjust the dimensions accordingly.

1. Using nails or wood screws attach the front and back pieces to the bottom.
2. Using nails or wood screws, attach both sides to the shelf.
3. Nail or screw the roof to the nesting shelf so there is an overhang in front.
4. Attach the hanger to the back of the nesting shelf near the top.
5. Mount the nesting shelf to a pole, fence post, and tree or to your porch, deck or house. (Follow mounting guidance).

All the Specs for Building Birdhouses

Various species of birds prefer birdhouses of certain sizes. Of course, you will want to make the entrance hole large enough for the type of bird you wish to nest in it. The hole needs to be ONLY that size since larger invite predators (birds, squirrels, etc.) to invade the box, either killing the chicks or taking over the box and evicting the previous residents.

Here's a handy table to use when building birdhouses. Double check the bird house plans you are using to make sure all measurements are in order. Then settle back and enjoy bird watching in your backyard.

(See below for birdhouse plans!)

Species	House floor (Inches)	Hole depth (Inches)	Diameter above Floor (Inches)	Height of Hole (Inches)	Height above Ground (Feet)
Bluebird	5 X 5	8	6	1 1/2	5-10
Titmouse	4 X 4	8-10	6-8	1 1/4	6-15
Nuthatch	4 X 4	8-10	6-8	1 1/4	12-20
Bewick's Wren	4 X 4	6-8	4-6	1 - 1 1/4	6-10
Carolina Wren	4 X 4	6-8	4-6	1 1/2	6-10
House Martin	6 X 6	6	2	2 1/2	10-15
Crested					
Flycatcher	6 X 6	8-10	6-8	2	8-20
Flicker					
	7 X 7	16-18	14-16	2 1/2	6-20
Red-Headed					
Woodpecker	6 X 6	12-15	9-12	2	12-20
Downy					
Woodpecker	4 X 4	9-12	6-8	1 1/4	6-20
Robin					
	6 X 8	8	(1+ sides open)		6-15
Barn Swallow					
	6 X 6	6	(1+ sides open)		8-12
Phoebe					
	6 X 6	6	(1+ sides open)		8-12
Screech Owl					
	8 X 8	12-15	9-12	3	10-30
Wood Duck					
	10	- 18	10-24	12-16	4 10-20

Painting or Staining Bird Houses and Feeders

What You Need to Know

Now that you've built your new birdhouse or feeder, many people will want to either paint or stain the wood. You do not need to do so since the wood will grey and weather naturally and last several years.

If you decided to stain or paint the feeder or house, make sure the paint or stain does not contain creosote or lead. Creosote is used to preserve wood and is toxic to birds as is lead in many paints. And of course the wood used in building the feeder or house should not be pressure-treated wood either.

Do not put any stain or paint on the inside of the houses, nor on or around the entrance hole on the outside. All paints and stains do contain chemicals, even if they are not creosote or lead. By avoiding these areas, you ensure the house is safer for your feathered friends.

Also brightly colored feeders and birdhouses are pleasing to the human eye and may decorate your garden; you should not paint feeders and houses bright colors nor use high gloss paint or finishes. Mother Nature created female birds a duller color than their male mates to avoid drawing attention to nesting areas. Thus, you should also not draw undue attention to nesting areas. Some people also feel that brightly colored feeders are not used as much as duller or plainer feeders. Since your goal in putting out feeders or houses is to attract more birds, it makes sense to use colors that blend into your landscape.

Dark colours absorb and retain heat. Nesting boxes should never be painted a dark colour. Roosting boxes, used during the winter for birds in inclement weather, can be painted dark. But make sure any dark-coloured roosting boxes are taken down before spring.

Wiggly Mealworms are sweets to Birds

All about Mealworms and How to Serve Them

Yummy, wiggling mealworms are like candy to birds! They will attract many different types of birds, birds that may not be coming to your seed or suet feeders. Bluebirds especially are fond of these wiggling worms. In fact, fledglings may be brought to the feeder by their parents, while baby birds will be fed them while still in the nest.

Mealworms add protein to many birds' diets. For instance, bluebirds may eat 85% insects. Offering these worms to birds gives them extra nutritious food while nesting, gives the baby birds a good start on life, and may save a bird's life when it can not find food during the winter or during a sudden cold snap in spring. When early arriving migrants come to your backyard, there may not be too many insects yet. Keep these songbirds around with Mealworms are the larvae of the beetle *Tenebrio molitor*, also known as the darkling beetle. They stay in this larvae stage typically for about 10 weeks before turning into beetles. Wax worms are an alternative to mealworms, offering higher calories, fat and calcium to the birds.

What types of birds enjoy devouring these squirming worms? In North America American Robins, Blackbirds, Blue Jays, Brown Creepers, Brown Thrashers, Cardinals, Carolina Wrens, Catbirds, Chickadees, Chipping Sparrows, Downy Woodpeckers, Field Sparrows, Finches, Grackles, Grosbeaks, Hairy Woodpeckers, Indigo Buntings, Juncos, Kinglets, Mockingbirds, Nuthatches, Orioles, Red-bellied Woodpeckers, Rufus-sided Towhees, Song Sparrows, Tanagers, Vireos, Warblers, and many other birds will come to your mealworm feeder!

Since the mealworms will wiggle about a feeder and can climb out, I wouldn't advise putting the mealworms in a seed or platform feeder. Straight edged cans, such as tuna cans or empty plastic margarine containers, double as feeders when you place them out on a platform feeder or on a picnic table. Or punch holes in both sides, attach a wire or string, and hang the tuna can feeder on a branch. It is very important to be sure the sides of the container are high enough and slick enough because mealworms are great crawlers and will be quickly over the edge of inadequate containers, escaping.

Many people have such great success with the mealworms that the birds come very close. One woman always uses an orange Tupperware bowl and says that when the birds see her coming with the bowl, she barely leaves before they descend. Another person has had great success that they are landing on the feeder while it is still in her hands! Talk about wanting to be the first in line for the mealworms!

Check in the box to the right for plans to make a wooden mealworm feeder for small birds, similar to the ones you see in catalogs. The mealworms are inside a glass and wooden feeder. There are holes on either end for small birds to go inside and eat. If you offer the mealworms in the wooden feeder, put a small dish or tuna can of them outside the feeder to get the backyard birds used to coming to the feeder for mealworms.

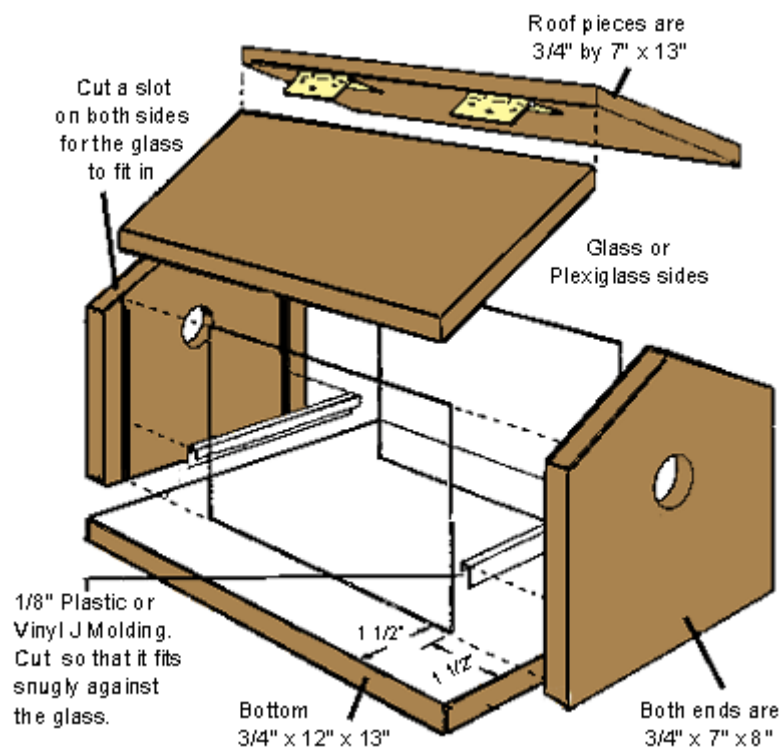
You can buy mealworms from neighborhood bait shops. Try getting the smaller sized worms since mealworms can get longer than some small birds who might want a taste! You can also find mealworms at wild bird stores or order them over the Internet. Check the box to the right for some online shops that will send hundreds or thousands of mealworms right to your door.

So what exactly do you do with these worms once you get them? If you put them in the refrigerator, they will keep for weeks at 40 - 50 degrees F. (Warning: be sure to label the container WELL so unsuspecting family members won't open it, hoping for a treat.) Make sure the container has adequate air hole so the mealworms do not suffocate moisture. Put out one or two dozen mealworms for each bluebird pair. Mockingbirds will eat about a dozen a day. Smaller birds will eat fewer, of course. For longer storage or for information on how you can raise mealworms so you don't have to keep buying them, want to raise mealworms so you have an inexpensive and never-ending supply? Then follow these easy directions to create your own "mealworm ranch." Delight the birds in your yard!

It's not hard to get started. You'll need a supply of mealworms, oat bran, a few apples, brown paper grocery bags, and a container to house your "mealworm ranch." Ready? Okay, let's get started!

1. Order or buy a supply of mealworms. Be sure to NOT get the giant ones since they don't seem to multiply as well as the smaller ones.
2. In the meantime, get a 5 gallon plastic pail or a clear plastic container with a lid and with sides about 6" tall. The container should be about 1 ft. by 3 ft. If using the clear container, get out the drill and make about 30 - 40 holes in the lid so the mealworms will get plenty of air. If the inside of the container gets water droplets, simply drill a few more holes. If using the pail or a container without a lid, get a piece of screening that will lay across the top.
3. Get enough oat bran to fill half of the pail or container. You can buy oat bran at a feed store (cheapest place) or a natural food store. The oat bran is food for your newly hatched mealworms.
4. When you get your mealworms, they will normally be packed in crumbled newspaper. You do not need to touch them, just take the container and shake them out into the pail or container. Put no more than 1,000 in one pail or 30-40 per square foot if using the clear plastic container. Be sure to not exceed these amounts since overcrowding will generate heat and may kill the mealworms!
5. Place your container or pail out of direct sunlight. Keep them in a place that has temperatures between 45 and 75 degrees F. Basements, closets, and cellars are great for your mealworm ranch.
6. Your mealworms need moisture. The easiest way is to simply cut an apple in half. Push the cut side down into the oat bran until it can barely be seen. Do not spend time cutting off the skin of the apple. This is enough moisture - DO NOT add more. Every couple of weeks, take out the old apple and add a new half.
7. On top of the oat bran, put 3-4 layers of torn brown grocery bags. The mealworms will crawl in and hide between the layers of bags.
8. Remember the mealworms are the larval stage of beetles. In their lifetime, these mealworms will go through 10-20 molts, turn into a whitish pupa and then transform into an adult beetle. These beetles can not fly but to make your family feel better, you might want to put a screen over the top of the pail or keep the lid on the plastic container.
9. The mealworms' cycle into beetles can vary from 100-300 days or more, depending on the available food and temperature at which you keep them. The mealworms turn into beetles, lay eggs and then die. The female beetle lays 500 to 1000 bean-shaped white sticky eggs. Eggs hatch in about one week but the larva is very small so it may take a few weeks before the larvae are large enough to be seen well. Teeny larvae will hatch from the eggs and will quickly grow to the size to feed birds. You can up to 3,000 new mealworms per square foot! With this many new mealworms, you may need to add an additional apple half when you see the newly hatched mealworms.
10. When you have new mealworms the size the birds love, take them out of the oat bran, and put them in a different container. Clearly label this container (again to avoid domestic horrors) and keep it in the refrigerator to keep the mealworms in the larval stage.

11. Every several months, take some mealworms from the pail or container and start a new pail or container. Doing so will ensure that your backyard birds will have a steady supply of tasty mealworms.



Building your own bird table and bird feeder

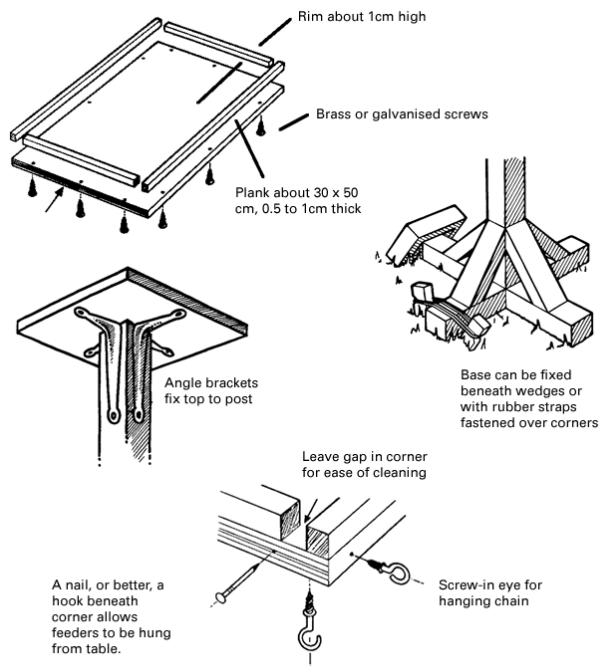
Making a bird table

This guide you the information you need to build a basic bird table. A bird table does not need to be fancy or complicated - the birds are only interested in a good supply of food in a safe, sheltered place.

Use wood that will not split or disintegrate when wet - exterior quality plywood from a sustainable source, 0.5 to 1 cm thick, is ideal. Any cheap piece of solid timber makes an excellent bird table. There is no maximum size, but don't make the table too small or the birds will squabble and the shyer species will be kept away: 30 x 50 cm is about right. A rim about 1 cm high around the edge will help stop food from being knocked or blown off. Leave gaps at the corners to allow rain to drain away and to make cleaning easy. Before assembly, sand it smooth to remove crevices that can hold dirt and disease. It is best to leave the table untreated. If it must be treated to prolong its life, use a selected water-based preservative such as Fenceguard or Sadolin and make sure that it is dry before use.

A few nails or hooks in the edges of the table will be useful for hanging nut or seed feeders or fat balls.

A roof gives some protection to feeding birds (from rain, snow and hunting sparrow hawks). Some birds may even roost at night on a table with a roof. It also provides a dry place for seed hoppers and nut containers. A roof can, however, deter the shyer and larger species from visiting and, in most cases, an open table is really just as good.



How to position the bird table

Mounting

A metal post is best to mount your bird table on to make it impossible for cats and difficult for squirrels to climb. It is much easier, however, to attach the table to a wooden post and slide a length of plastic drainpipe or similar over it to make it unscalable.

Drive the post into the ground (allow for about a foot of post in the ground) or make it free-standing with a cross-shaped base. The table needs to be 4-6 feet (1.2-1.75 m) off the ground. The best height will depend on the level you will be viewing from, the agility of the neighborhood cats and the height of the person in charge of stocking and cleaning the table.

Whichever way the post is fixed the table must be firm. If on a cross-shaped base, make the feet long enough to stop the table from blowing over. If wind is a problem you could peg the feet down or put rocks on them. Use small metal angle brackets at the top of the post to fix the table, or small blocks of wood (or plastic blocks from DIY stores) which can be screwed to the post from the side and the table from below.

Hanging

To hang a table, use screw-in eyes or hooks to each corner and attach lengths of wire or a light metal chain (avoid lines which can be chewed through by squirrels). To stop the table from spinning round, the chain needs to be hung from more than one point, so make loops of the chains at either end of the table and hang it from a horizontal branch (or your washing line). To protect a tree from being cut by the chain, thread the chain through a section of garden hose.

Window ledges

Bird tables can be fixed to window ledges with angle brackets, chains or angled supports depending on the site.

A ground feeding tray

For those birds that prefer to feed on the ground, a low-level bird table can be provided. This should be mounted no more than 10 cm off the ground (to allow the grass to 'breathe') and moved fractionally each time you put out food. This prevents both the build up of droppings in one part of the garden and damage to your lawn. Remember, beware of cats under shrub cover.

Problems

Unwelcome guests

Cats and squirrels can be pests on a bird table. Cats keep the birds away and squirrels eat the food. Although unsightly, 1.5" (4 cm) wire mesh around the table can stop squirrels and cats, but it will also keep away larger birds such as thrushes, woodpeckers and jays. An alternative is an inverted biscuit tin fixed at the top of the post supporting the table. This can stop cats and squirrels from climbing up to the table. You could also try plastic bottles, fixed so they revolve, and slipped along the post.

Dominant birds

Starlings, house sparrows, collared doves and the crow family may monopolize a bird table. An overhanging roof may deter larger species but you are unlikely to stop them feeding altogether. Provide food in several places, which should at least give other birds a chance. Break food such as bread into smaller pieces so that large pieces cannot be snatched and carried off. Put food on the table, on the ground and in a variety of feeders (spreading food over a large area reduces squabbling). Loose food should only be sufficient for a day, to reduce the chance of attracting vermin at night. If pigeons increase, discourage them by containerizing all food: high numbers cause problems.

Hygiene and maintenance

Clean your bird table regularly and never allows old food to accumulate. Dirty tables can harbor dangerous bacteria left by sick birds and start an outbreak of disease. Brush off debris every time you put out fresh food and scrub the table with a mild disinfectant solution every few weeks: more frequently if sick birds visit. Move the table from time to time to stop the accumulation of droppings underneath.

Some bird diseases can be transmitted to people. Although the risk is small, it is worth taking sensible hygienic precautions.

Annual maintenance is best carried out in autumn. Clean the tables, tighten/replace screws and make sure it is still a safe place for birds to feed. Don't expect a wooden bird table to last for ever. As it weathers, it becomes more difficult to clean and after a couple of seasons it is best to burn it and make a new one.

Water

If you are regularly supplying food in your garden, you should also provide water. Birds require less water in their diet than we do and some may get all they need from their food, but seed-eating birds - which you will be attracting to your bird table - have the driest diet and need water the most. Provide a simple bird bath, such as a dish or a dustbin lid, or dig a pond

Thanks for reading my guide on birdhouses and bird tables, I hope this has provided the useful information that you needed to create and attract birds to your garden. If you are too busy to build a birdhouse there are many high quality options available, you will find a selection of birdhouses from retailers all over the county by following the links available in this e-book. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me. Thanks again for your interest and best of luck with your bird watching.

Kindest regards

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(For all your information needs please visit my web site)

Here are a couple of online retailers that I have used in the past for all aspects of my garden including bird boxes and products.



[Bird tables and hut's from Amazon](#)

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