



BUG HOTEL GUIDE

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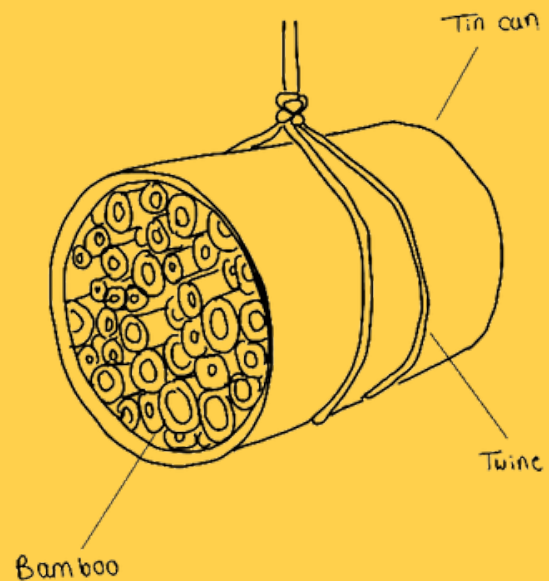
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SINGLE TIN CAN HOTEL

Material:

- Tin can x1
- Tin opener
- Bamboo stems (hollow) or reeds
- Optional - twine



How to set it up:

- First, wash and dry the tin can. Remove any paper labels present and use a tin opener to remove both ends
- Gather bamboo stems, you will need enough to fill the tin can
- Place the bamboo stems in the tin can, ensuring they are tightly packed together
- Place tin can hotel in direct sunlight
- Optional - can use twine to hang bug hotel

What insects may be attracted to this bug hotel?

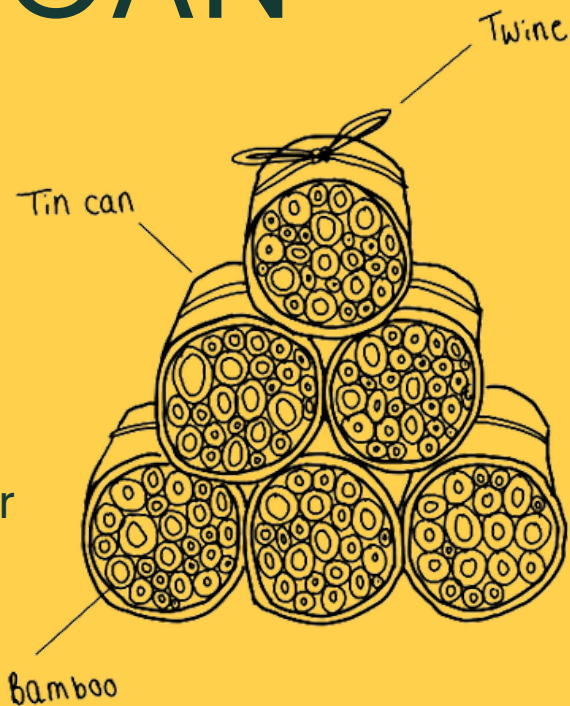
This bug hotel is ideal for solitary bees, who use the hollow shoots to lay their eggs

Note: It is advised that the bamboo used in bug hotels made for bees is replaced every few years to avoid the build up of mould, mites and parasites. Ensure the tin can hotel is empty before replacing the bamboo stems.

MULTI TIN CAN HOTEL

Material:

- Tin can x6
- Can opener
- Bamboo stems (hollow)
- Twine to tie cans together



How to set it up:

- First, wash and dry the tin can. Remove any paper labels present and use the tin opener to remove both ends
- Gather bamboo stems, you will need enough to fill each tin can
- Attach tin cans using twine in a 1-2-3 formation (see diagram)
- Place bamboo stems in each tin can, ensuring they are tightly packed
- Place hotel in direct sunlight

What insects may be attracted to this bug hotel?

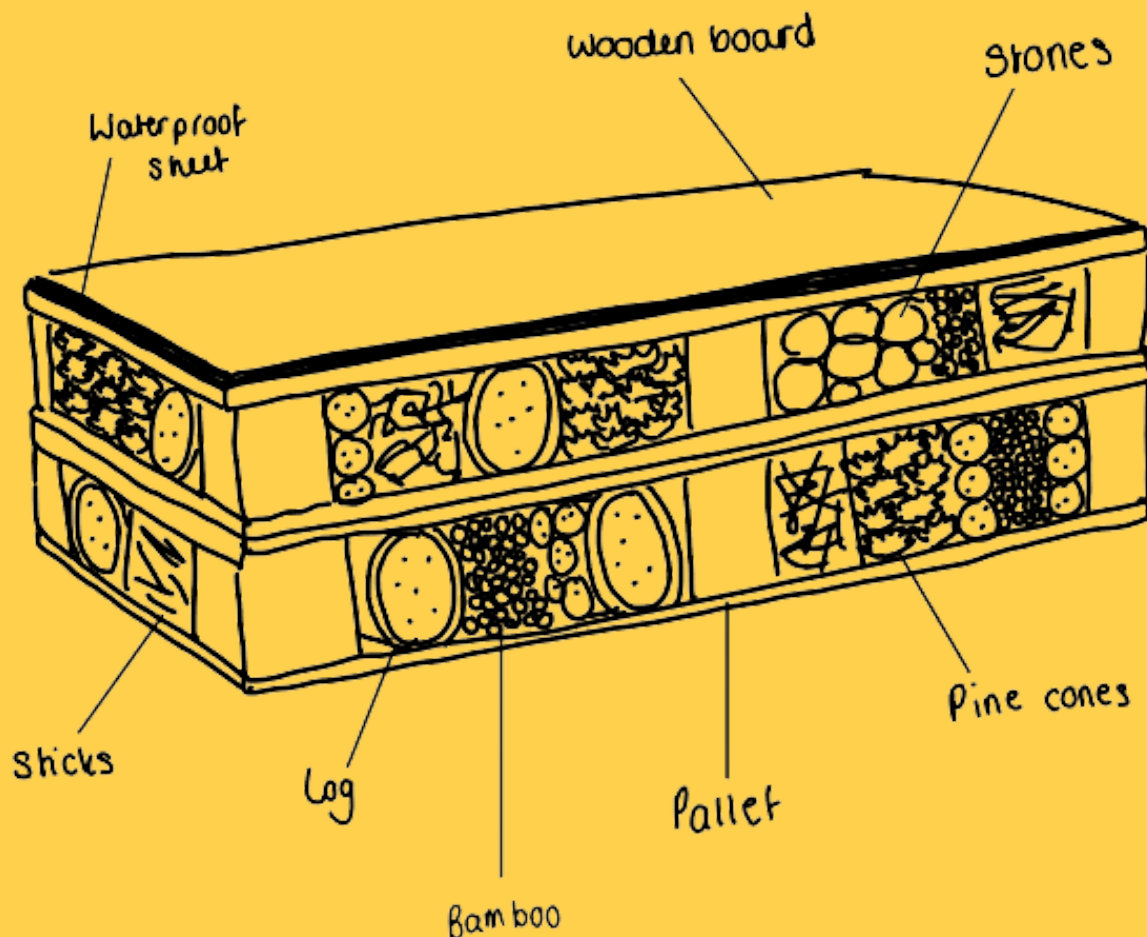
This bug hotel is ideal for solitary bees, who use the hollow shoots to lay their eggs

Note: It is advised that the bamboo used in bug hotels made for bees is replaced every few years to avoid the build up of mould, mites and parasites. Ensure the tin can hotel is empty before replacing the bamboo stems.

PALLET HOTEL

Material:

- Wooden pallet x2
- Bricks x10 (depending on size of the pallet)
- Wooden board for the roof
- Waterproof lining the size of the pallet
- Fallen twigs, branches and leaves/ stone and pebbles/ bamboo
- Hammer and nails x8
- Optional: tin cans
- Optional: old tiles
- Optional: corrugated cardboard

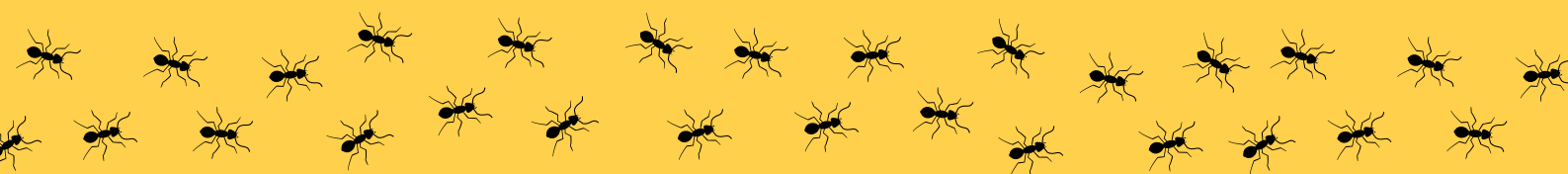


How to set it up:

- Place the first wooden pallet on flat ground in a dry but shaded location
- Place the bricks in each corner and down the middle of the pallet (see diagram)
- Place the second pallet on top of the bricks
- Go into nature and collect fallen twigs, branches and leaves, stones and pebbles
- Place your collected item within the gaps in the pallets, making sure they are nicely filled
- You can also add tin cans with bamboo inside and/ or tiles and/ or corrugated cardboard to the gaps
- Place the waterproof lining over the top of the pallet and using the hammer and four nails secure the lining into the four corners of the pallet
- Then place the wooden board on top of the the pallet and lining, the wooden board and waterproof lining will protect the bug hotel from rain, secure the wooden board into the pallet using the hammer and final four nails

What insects may be attracted to this bug hotel?

Pallet hotels can become homes for a variety of insects due to the different microhabitats created, kept dry they can provide a home for spiders, ladybirds, woodlice and beetles. Pallet hotels can also be used a refugia by reptiles such as lizards and slow worms and amphibians such as newts, not just insects!



LOG PILE HOTEL

Material:

- Fallen logs
- Fallen twigs and branches
- Fallen leaves
- Dead wood
- Optional: wooden stakes x2

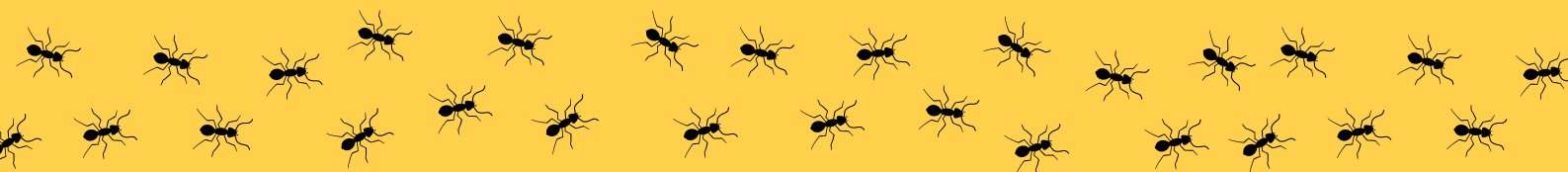
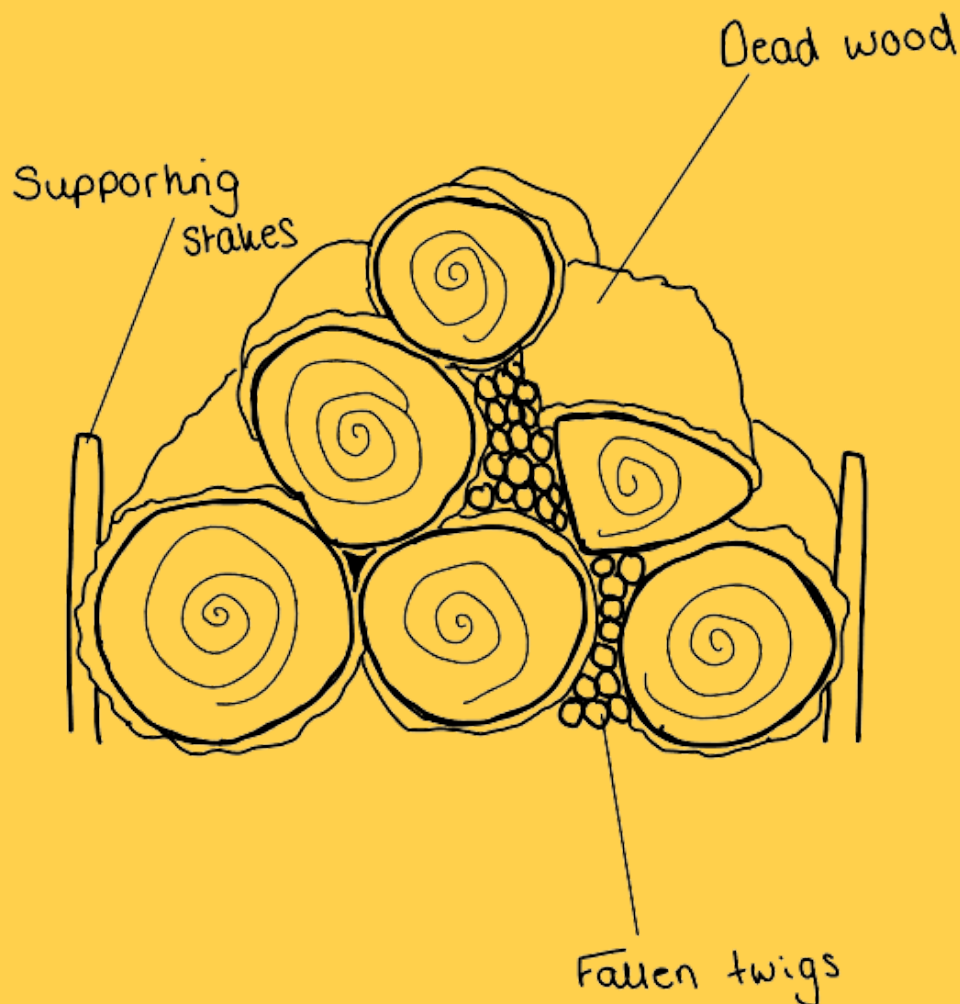
Note: avoid using logs from ash trees due to the risk of ash dieback, which is spread by the movement of infected trees. Once a tree becomes infected with ash dieback it is unlikely to recover, so this is an important step in protecting native ash trees.

How to set it up:

- Collect materials when out and about in nature or found around the garden
- Find a shaded location for the log pile
- Place the largest logs/ dead wood at the base of the log pile first, adding layers of logs on top (see diagram)
- You can add wooden stakes to the site of the log pile for added support
- Smaller twigs and branches can be added to any gaps, or fallen leaves can be used instead

What insects may be attracted to this bug hotel?

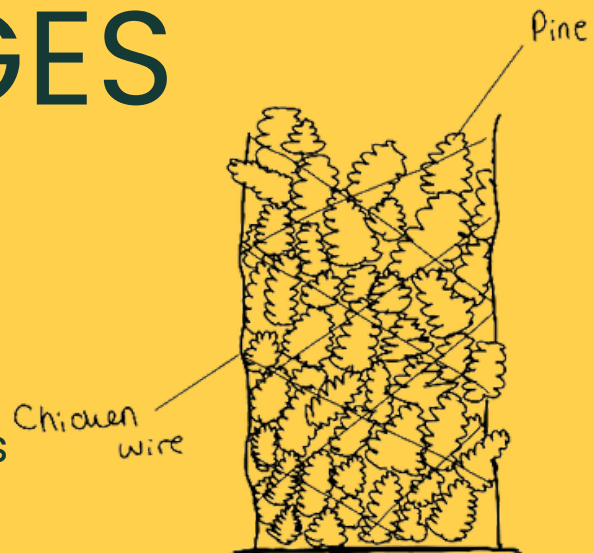
Log piles are perfect for creatures that like to burrow into decaying wood, such as beetles and centipedes. Log pile hotels can also be used as refugia by reptiles such as lizards and slow worms and amphibians such as newts, not just insects!



PINE CONE HOTEL FOR OUTBUILDINGS OR GARAGES

Material:

- Pine cones
- Chicken wire
- Twine
- Fallen twigs and/ or leaves



How to set it up:

- Form a tunnel with the chicken wire 10cm wide 20cm long, you can attach the chicken wire using twine
- Place pine cones tightly in the wire tunnel so that the scales interlock
- Fill any gaps with twigs or fallen leaves
- Place in the corner of any outbuildings or garages you own for overwintering insects

What insects may be attracted to this bug hotel?

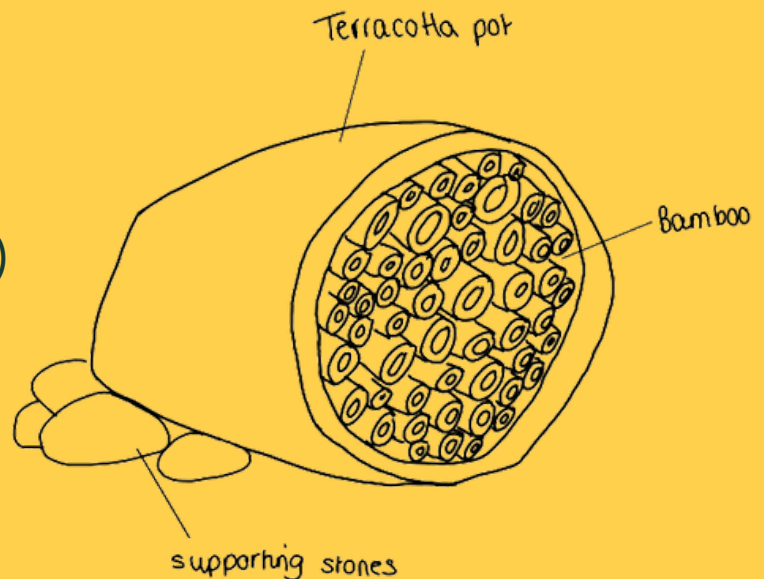
Pine cone hotels are perfect for ladybirds and lacewings. Adult ladybirds hibernate over winter (known as diapause), so the pine cone hotels make the perfect winter hiding spot.

Lacewings also overwinter, many species overwinter as pupae but some species such as the common green lacewing (*Chrysoperla carnea*) shelter over the winter as adults.

PLANT POT HOTEL

Material:

- Bamboo stems (hollow)
- Terracotta pot
- Small rocks or bricks



How to set it up:

- Make sure your terracotta pot is dry before beginning
- Place dried bamboo shoots into the pot, making sure they are very few gaps between the bamboo shoots
- Place the pot on its side, using small rocks/ bricks to stop the pot from rolling
- Place a stone under the back of the plant pot so that the open face is pointing downwards slightly to prevent rain from stagnating in the pot
- Make sure the pot is placed in a dry spot that gets direct sunlight

What insects may be attracted to this bug hotel?

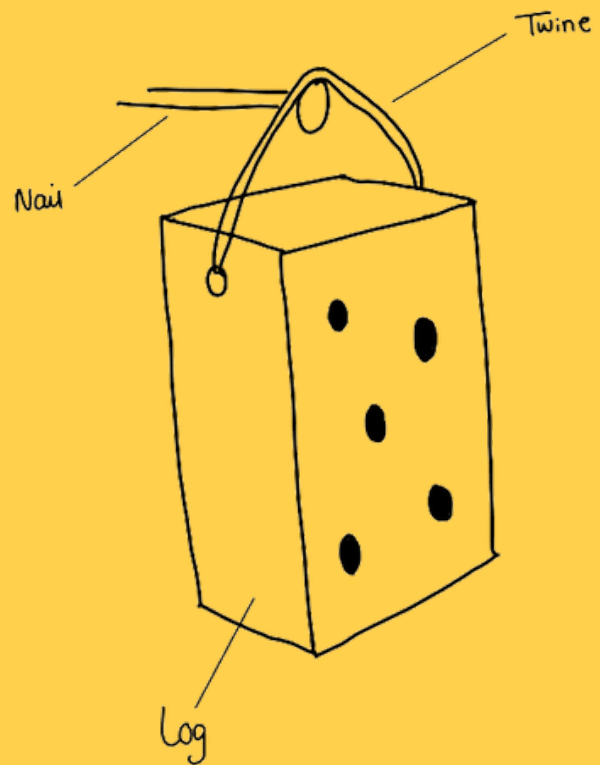
This bug hotel is ideal for solitary bees, who use the hollow shoots to lay their eggs

Note: It is advised that the bamboo used in bug hotels made for bees is replaced every few years to avoid the build up of mould, mites and parasites. Ensure the tin can hotel is empty before replacing the bamboo stems.

LOG BLOCK

Material:

- Dry log
- Hand drill
- Hammer and nail x2
- Twine



How to set it up:

- Make sure your log is dry before beginning
- Using a drill, drill 5-10 holes on one side of the log, amount of holes will depend on the size of the log you have
- Make the holes between 2-6mm wide and 15cm deep
- Drill a hole through the entire side of the log and pass the twine through to make a handle
- Using a hammer and nail, attach your dry log to a fence, making sure it is south facing so that it gets direct sunlight

What insects may be attracted to this bug hotel?

This bug hotel is ideal for solitary bees, who use the hollow shoots to lay their eggs

Note: avoid using logs from ash trees due to the risk of ash dieback, which is spread by the movement of infected trees. Once a tree becomes infected with ash dieback it is unlikely to recover, so this is an important step in protecting native ash trees.

To bee or not to bee?
Make your bug hotel and send
us pictures!

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Aged 16–35? Join our
Organising Team!

Guide produced with thanks to Charlotte Trewick.
Additional thanks to Christina Derrick & Aura Goldman