

# HOW TO MAKE A BIRD NESTING BOX



Birds need your care all year round. As their natural nesting sites become scarcer and scarcer, more of these incredible animals are relying on nesting boxes. Why not create your very own and display it in your garden to keep your feathered friends warm and safe?

## YOU WILL NEED:

**Plank of timber** – 15 mm thick, 150 mm wide, and at least 1500 mm long

**Pencil**

**Tape measure**

**Jigsaw or small saw**

**Sand paper**

**Drill**

**Nails and screws**

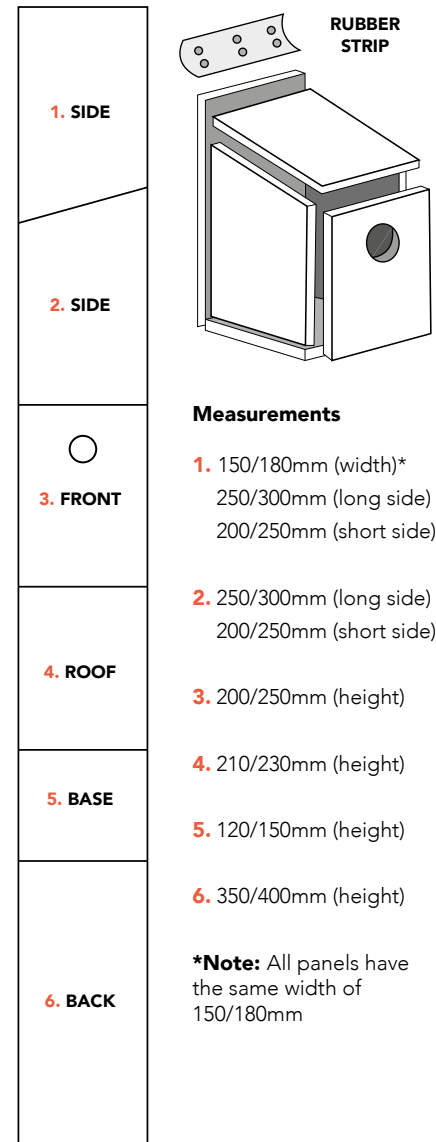
**Strip of rubber**

**Linseed oil or non-toxic wood preservative**

**Strong cord**

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1. Find the type of wood that will do the job. Hardwood, not pressure treated, and rough in texture (so chicks can grip onto the sides). Cedar, oak or beech will work best.
2. Cut out pieces of the right size and sand them down (see diagram right).
3. Make a hole for the birds to enter and leave. Use a hole saw or a flatwood drill to create a hole that's at least 120 mm above the base, so the chicks don't fall out.
4. Sand down the hole so there are no splinters that could injure the birds.
5. Drill some 8 mm holes in the base of the bird box for drainage.
6. Nail or screw all the pieces together except for the roof.
7. Use the strip of rubber to make a hinge for between the roof and the back of the bird box. You'll need this to clean the box out at the end of every nesting season.
8. Drill an 8 mm hole in each of the top corners of the back board of the bird box.
9. You can treat the bird box with linseed oil or wood preservative but be sure that it is non-toxic and safe for birds.
10. Tie some strong cord through the holes in the back of the bird box and hang in a suitable location.



Are you proud of your birdbox? Why not share an image on social media using **#AnimalAdvocates** to make sure we see and share it!

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