

HOW TO MAKE A SIMPLE HEDGEHOG HOUSE

Help provide a safe habitat for hedgehogs to sleep, nest and hibernate in throughout the year by building them their own cosy little house. What's more exciting than inviting them into your garden and waiting for them to settle in?

You will need:

A large, thick cardboard or plastic box

Scissors

Dry grass or straw

A carrier bag

Twigs and dry leaves



Instructions:

1. Cut a 15cm x 15cm entrance, into your box. If you want to protect your little friends, create a tunnel using another piece of cardboard and attach it to the entrance. This makes sure predators can't get in and the hedgehogs will be safe in their new home.
2. Cut some air vents in the side of the box.
3. Put some dry grass, leaves or straw inside.
4. Put an opened-up carrier bag over the house to protect it from the elements. Make sure that it is attached well so that it doesn't fly away.
5. Find a quiet spot near a hedge and tuck the hedgehog house in (with the entrance facing south if possible).
6. Cover the house with twigs, sticks, dry leaves and soil to protect its residents and ensure the house is nice and sturdy.



Tips:

Make sure the house is in a quiet place and avoid disturbing your hedgehog guests.

Be patient – hedgehogs are shy and solitary, so it may take them a while to settle in.

Clean out the hedgehog house once a year. It's best to do it in April, after their hibernation – but make sure you do not clean it whilst the hedgehog is home!