

# How to Build an Insect Home.

B E E V I V E

Why not get together with your family and friends to make your own insect home (often referred to as a 'bug hotel') out of foraged and recycled materials, to give bugs somewhere to live?

They'll repay you when they help control pests and even pollinate the plants in your garden. After all we share the same planet and they deserve somewhere safe to live too where they can shelter, lay their eggs, raise their young, and seek refuge from predators. There's no need to fear the bugs that will visit. They are friendly and don't want to harm you.

The space doesn't have to be large and you can even co-share your bug hotel with a neighbour and spot bugs together using our bug hotel diary!



## Step 1

Collate your materials

## Step 2

Choose a cool, sheltered & quiet spot

## Step 3

Create a structure with a firm base

## Step 4

Fill the gaps with a variety of your foraged items and build, build, build

## Step 5 (optional)

Decorate your hotel with a sign to say it's open for business and don't forget to scatter some wildflower Seedballs, you can't have a hotel without breakfast nearby!

## Ready to get creative?

You'll need...  
(some of the below)

- Wooden pallets
- Bricks and tiles
- Old plant pots
- Drainpipes
- Logs and twigs
- Spare rolls of turf
- Dry leaves
- Bark
- Hollow plant stems
- Bamboo canes
- Straw and hay
- Bamboo canes
- Corrugated cardboard



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# Insects you might see in your bug hotel...



Stag beetle



Centipede



Lacewing

A mason solitary bee



Her mud door with eggs laid behind

Leaf cutter solitary bee (likes sunny spots)



Spiders and their webs!



Woodlice



Ladybird

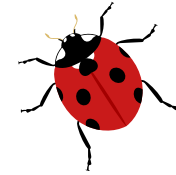


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A leaf door, made by a leaf cutter bee!

# 's BUG HOTEL DIARY



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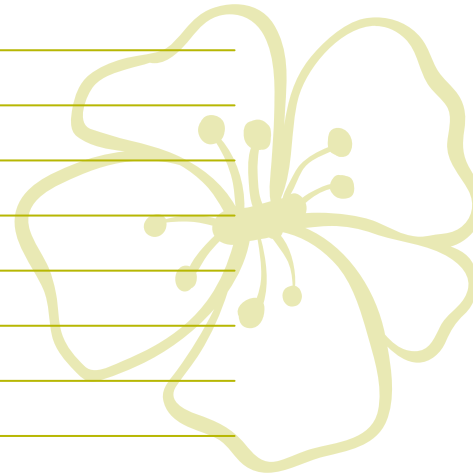
Record your sightings by writing or drawing what you have seen inside or around your insect home and any small interesting things you have noticed. Who's taken residence, which is your favourite and have you named him or her?

Date:

Insect sighted:

Length of stay:

*Drawing space*



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