

# Make a Wasp Restaurant

Wasps love to drink, but they can't swim, so they don't like water or liquid sources without a spot for them to sit.

The solution is simple, though! All you need to do is grab a pan or shallow bowl, and add a good amount of stones, pebbles or marbles before filling with liquid. The rocks and knick-knacks will give wasps a nice landing spot and help avoid drowning. It's best to change the liquid every week or so to make sure bacteria doesn't grow in it. Be very careful not to seem threatening when you do this!

## Materials:

- A shallow container (e.g., shallow pan, a small saucer or plastic lid. You can even use a frisbee!)
- White granulated sugar
- Water
- A spoon or stick for stirring
- Marbles, pebbles, or stones
- A small garden or outdoor space away from eating, playing, and gathering areas



## Steps:

1. Prepare the sugar water solution: Mix 1 part white granulated sugar with 1 part water. For example, you can use 1/2 cup of sugar and 1/2 cup of water. Stir until the sugar is completely dissolved. Keep the leftovers in the refrigerator to refill when needed.
2. Choose a location: Find a safe and sunny spot in your garden or outdoor area away from eating, playing, and gathering areas.
3. Set up the feeding station: Place the shallow container on a flat surface in the chosen location. Add the marbles, pebbles, or stones. Carefully pour your sugar water solution into the shallow container. You don't need to fill it to the top; a few inches of liquid should suffice. Make sure you don't cover the marbles, pebbles, or stones. These are the landing pads.
4. Observe and wait: Be patient and wait for the wasps to discover the sugar water source. It probably won't take long, but be prepared to wait and watch.
5. Maintain the feeding station: Check the container regularly to make sure it hasn't dried out. If the sugar water has evaporated or been consumed by the wasps, refill it with more sugar water.
6. Observe and learn: Observe the wasps as they feed from a safe distance, preferably with binoculars. Respect the wasps and keep a safe distance. Don't disturb the wasps while they are feeding. Remember, they can be aggressive when defending their food source!

## How does it work?

This project not only helps out the wasps as they are desperately searching for food after being forced to leave their colonies and nests, but it also gives them a place to go that isn't around you. That's why choosing the location of the Wasp Restaurant is so important. Make sure it's far away from where you want to be!