

BUILD YOUR OWN BEE HOTEL AND WATERING HOLE



If you have some outdoor space with plenty of flowers nearby, and would like to create your very own **bee hotel** to shelter solitary bees, here's how!

MAKE A BEE HOTEL



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1. It's easy to make a simple bee hotel out of everyday rubbish! You will need: an empty plastic drinks bottle, some leftover brown paper or card, and strong twine – plus scissors, sticky tape, and a pencil to help you assemble everything.



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2. Rinse out an empty drinks bottle and leave it to dry. Remove the label and carefully cut off the drinking end at an angle, as shown above, so that you create a porch to protect your bee hotel. Get a grown-up to help you with this.

TIP
Instead of paper tubes to make your bee tunnels, you could also use paper drinking straws!



3

3. Next, make some tunnels for solitary bees to nest in! Take some brown paper or card, and carefully roll it up around a pencil. Secure the rolled-up paper with sticky tape and slide out the pencil, so you're left with a hollow tube. Fold over one end of the tube and tape it closed. Your tubes should be at least 2cm shorter than your plastic bottle, for shelter.



4



TIP
Hang up your bee hotel in spring, when many solitary bees are looking for nesting sites

4. Fill your bottle with the hollow tubes (with the open end facing out) until they're packed tight. Then if you attach the bottle to something stable in a sunny, sheltered spot in the garden.