

INSTRUCTIONS INSECT HOTEL

Contains:

5 pre-drilled wooden parts
100 insect nest pots
16 screws

You will need also:

Phillips screwdriver
1 stainless nail

Good to know:

Domestic insects find few natural nesting places in your area. Habitats such as old fences, garden wood, sandy paths or under a stone are increasingly difficult for insects to find. The habitat in the wild is also becoming smaller and smaller. Wild bees are among the most important flower pollinators. Therefore, the close relatives of the honeybees are just as important to us and to the world. Wild bees are pollinators for all kinds of plants and certainly also important for our vegetable and garden plants. With your self-built insect hotel you will provide a safe haven for all wild bees and help them to reproduce.

In the manual we show you step by step how to build the insect hotel. We also explain how to hang the hotel and what to fill it with.

The pine wood is robust and is characterised by the fact that it is extremely suitable for outdoor use. Because wood is a natural product, the actual finish may vary from the picture.

Other: Your construction kit has been assembled by people with disabilities in the Steinfurt social workshop.

Disclaimer:

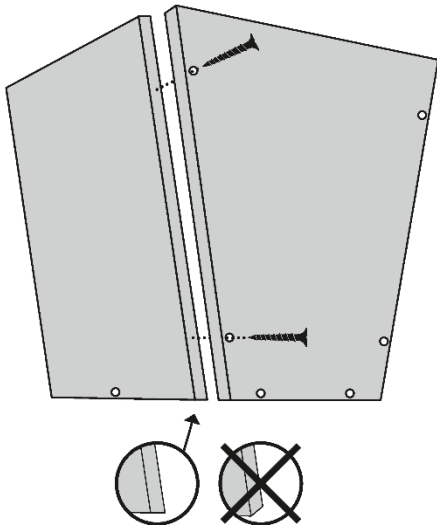
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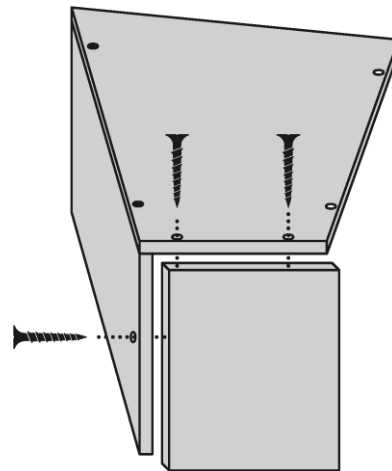
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This is how you assemble it:

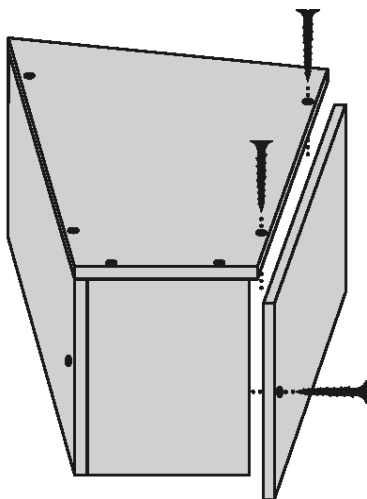
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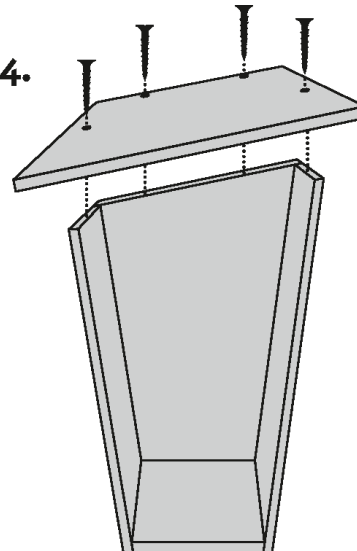
2.



3.



4.



This is how to fill it:

In the set you will find 100 nesting shells in different sizes. At 10 cm, they are deep enough to protect the larvae from any natural enemies. The walls are extra smooth so that they cannot hurt themselves while moving around. You can find all sort of other materials yourself to create a fully furnished and original hotel. Here are a few tips:

- Bamboo: Cut hollow bamboo into pieces of about 10 cm. Make sure that the inside and cutting edges are smooth.
- Cane: Here too, smooth cutting edges and insides are important.
- Wood: Use only dry wood and drill a hole in the grain.
- Be careful with pine wood, the resin in it will stick to the wings
- The drill holes should have as many different diameters as possible.
- Always make sure that a nesting hole is smooth and free of splinters

Make sure that the shells fill the hotel completely and that they cannot fall out. Avoid large holes and check that everything fits together properly.

The best place for the hotel:

Place or hang the hotel so that it cannot fall down or tip over. Place the hotel facing south-east, so that the sun shines directly on it in the morning after a cold night, and it is then protected from the hot afternoon sun. It is best to find a spot that is sheltered from rain and wind. In any case, make sure that there is enough space for the insects to approach.

The best time for the insect hotel:

Most insects only breed once a year. Mason bees brood in the period March/April and then only live for 4 to 6 weeks. In this short time the bee also reproduces by laying eggs. From this egg a larva emerges which pupates after about 3 to 4 weeks into a cocoon in which it hibernates for 8 months, until it reaches full maturity in March/April. Once you have given the hotel a proper place, it is important to leave it at peace as much as possible, even in winter, so that its inhabitants can develop undisturbed.

This is how you take care of the hotel:

After about a year, it may be useful to clean your insect hotel a little. Some wild bees do not like to use old hives which still contain the remains of the previous occupant. On the other hand, there are also many bees which prefer to do their own spring cleaning. Mason bees prefer to occupy a nesting place that has already been cleaned. Before their arrival, it is best to replace broken or worn nesting holes in the autumn and carefully clean the rest.

In order to keep an overview of whether all insects have left the hotel after a year and whether there are no dead larvae left, mark the nesting holes which are already closed with a marker in the spring. Nesting passages that still have a point in the autumn have therefore not been used. In order to ensure that the residents of the hotel do not become stuck, cobwebs should be removed around the hotel.