

# How to make a Bug Hotel

Insects are vital to our world acting as pollinators to make our food. They may be beneficial to us by eating garden pests. They are the lowest part of the food chain ladder providing food for larger animals further up the chain. Some minibeasts may use your bug hotel as a home; others may use it to lay eggs in and raise their young; some will hibernate in it.

Your bug hotel needs to be stuffed full of natural materials to create nooks and crannies to allow minibeasts to burrow in and feel safe. The more variety in your bug hotel the better as it will be home to a variety of insects. I have recycled a plastic container to make my bug hotel in as it will not biodegrade for some time and it will keep your bugs protected inside. You can place your bug hotel on the ground or in a tree or bush. Make sure you hide it away in a damp and shady spot.

**You will need an adult to help you get started.**

1. First cut the top off a clean plastic container.
2. Collect your leaves, grass, twigs, sticks, pine cones etc together and trim to size.
3. Stuff into your container so that it is very tight
4. Place in a shady spot of your garden.

You need a plastic bottle with the top cut off



Collect your natural materials



Stuff your materials into your container



The materials need to fit tightly inside.



Find a safe shady place for your container.



Leave your bug hotels for the minibeasts to find and move in.

