

NESTING BOX TIPS

1. Take the time to choose the right box for the species you want to attract; a blue tit box is different from a robin box, which is certainly different to a barn owl box.
2. Ensure the box is at a suitable height to deter most predators but allow you easy access for cleaning.
3. If possible, avoid facing boxes south, as they can warm up in the afternoon sun and overheat any chicks inside. Boxes facing the prevailing wind are also less desirable.
4. If you are making your own box, use FSC sustainably-sourced wood, or purchased tough woodcrete boxes with a long lifespan that can thermo-regulate in all weathers, and deter the most ardent predators. They must also be weather-proof.
5. Ensure the entrance hole is a good height above the nesting area (at least 10cms/4 inches for small boxes) and don't forget a blue tit can build a nest several centimetres thick.
6. You can get more information on how to build your own nestbox at:
cheshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/how-build-nesting-box-birds.