


How to make a birdhouse

<p>Things you will need:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An empty carton• Scissors• Something to poke a few small holes through the carton – possibly a skewer• A ruler or tape measure• String or twine to hang up your bird house• Craft items to decorate your bird house (optional)• Something round, like a bottle lid, to help you draw a perfect circle (optional) <p>Being safe: You might need an adult's help for some steps which use scissors and/or a skewer</p>	 A photograph showing two small, colorful birdhouses perched on a thick, textured tree branch. The birdhouse on the left is orange with a yellow circular entrance hole. The birdhouse on the right is blue with a white circular entrance hole. Both have small, dark, gabled roofs. The background is a soft-focus green, suggesting a natural outdoor setting.
<p>Step 1 Find an empty carton, maybe one that used to contain milk or juice. It's best if it is at least a litre in volume. Rinse it with soap and warm water. Let it dry completely before continuing.</p>	<p>Step 2 Draw a circle on one side of the carton, about 5-7cm from the top, about 4cm across is perfect for most garden birds. You could use something circular to help draw this, such as a bottle lid. When you are happy with the circle you have drawn, ask an adult to help you cut it out, to make a hole for the birds to get into your bird house</p>
<p>Step 3 Using a skewer and with some adult help, poke a couple of small holes in the bottom of the carton, to help drain any water that gets in. Poke another small hole in the middle of the carton 1cm from the top. Thread a piece of string or twine through this hole, which should be long enough to tie securely around a branch or similar, once the bird box is finished.</p>	<p>Step 4 Decorate your bird house using whatever craft items you can find at home that you want to use. This could include leaves, twigs, wooden lollipop sticks or paint. Don't worry if you don't have any items to decorate it with. Your bird house will be just as appealing to the birds as a plain carton.</p>
<p>Step 5 Choose a sturdy tree, possibly one that you can see from a window in your house, to hang your bird box from. If there aren't any trees nearby, see if there are any hooks that you can use. Try to hang on the north side, as this is more sheltered. Tie the end of the string or twine to a branch or hook, making sure your bird house hangs at least a metre and a half from the ground... the higher the better as this will keep the birds safe from cats and predators.</p>	<p>What you could do next? Keep watching your bird box to see if any birds have decided to make it their home. What size of bird might like to use this bird box? Could you design another one, for a bigger or smaller bird? What kind of things could you make to go around your new bird house that the birds might like?</p>