

How to: make a bird feeder

Making your own bird feeder allows birds to get extra food through the bad winter weather and spells of natural food shortage. The most valuable time of the year to put out feed for the birds is between October and April.

Tools/Materials

- A clean plastic screwtop drinks bottle or milk carton
- Garden twine or string
- Scissors
- Heavy-duty tape, e.g. parcel tape
- Peanuts or wild bird seed

Safe peanuts

Please check the peanuts you buy, on the packet it should have a label saying 'safe peanuts'. This means the levels of aflatoxins have been checked, if the peanuts are unchecked they can harm or even kill the birds.



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Instructions to make your feeder

1. Wash out the bottle and leave it to dry.
2. Cut out a hole in the middle of the bottle.
3. Punch holes in the bottom of the bottom to allow water to drain out.
4. Tie string around the neck of the bottle.
5. Fill the feeder with peanuts or wild bird seed.
6. Hang the feeder outside and watch to see who pays a visit!



Attracting different kinds of birds

- For Robins and Wrens rub 80g of flour with 30g lard and push maggots or mealworms into the mixture.
- Fruit past it's best is good for blackbirds, thrushes and starlings
- Sunflower heads for tits and finches
- Fir cones stuff with mild cheese, raisins and bird seeds for tits and finches



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