

How to: make a bumblebee home

Bees are a corner stone of our ecosystem and are facing rapid decline, in part due to their habitats being destroyed. Help now and make a bee a home.

Bees help to pollinate most of our plants which is why they are essential to our ecosystem. 3 of our 25 species of bumblebee are now extinct in the UK and more are facing extinction. There are fewer flowers around and this is contributing to their declining numbers. To help you can try and grow a variety of native flowers that bloom throughout the year such as old native roses, buddleia, honeysuckle, lavender and flowers like clover in long grass.

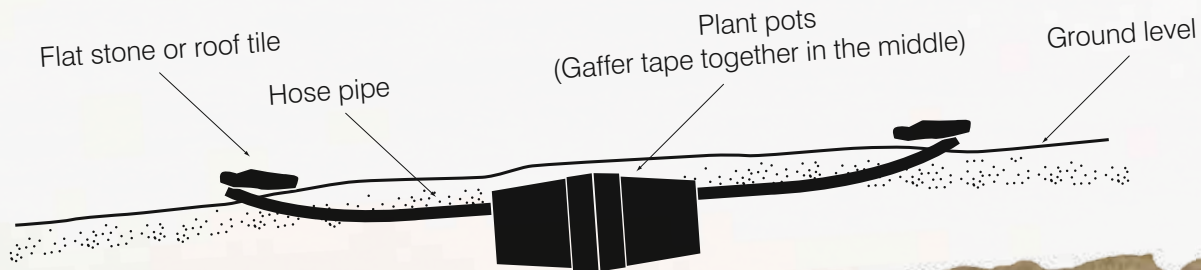
How to make a bumblebee home

1. Cut a hole in the bottom of each pot (the size of the hose). Push the hose through and tape into place.
2. Bend the wire round the bedding so that it will fit inside the 2 flower pots. Put the wire and bedding into one of the posts and place some stones between the wire and the pot.
3. Tape the pots together. Bury the Bee home in a sheltered and shady area along the side of a straight garden feature (such as a hedge or fence) leaving on the ends of the tubes showing a ground level.

4. Put a nail or pin through the end of the hoses. Place a flat stone or floor tile on top of the pipe to stop water from going in.

Tools/Materials

- Flower pot
- Gaffer tape
- 40cm² chicken wire
- Bedding (straw, dry moss or dry grass)
- Scissors
- 2 pins
- Hose (30-50cm long / 18mm wide)



www.thelandtrust.org.uk

