



Build a ladybird house

This ladybird house makes a creative addition to any garden. It will be used by ladybirds and other insects in winter.

By building this simple ladybird house you can attract ladybirds to your garden or if you release ladybirds they will be much more likely to stick around.



You will need:

A piece of plywood
Logs (at least 10cm deep)
Bamboo canes
Small sticks
Screws
Nails
Wire
Power drill
Hand saw

Adult assistance will be required to make this ladybird house.

Instructions

1. Screw and wire together the logs to make a frame.
2. Cut the plywood to the shape of the frame and nail it to the back.
3. Cut the bamboo canes into pieces the same depth as the frame.
4. Cut pieces of log the same depth as the frame.
5. Use a drill to make holes around 5mm in diameter in the log pieces.
5. Stack the bamboo and log pieces into the frame. Push them in as tightly as possible so they don't fall out.
6. Fill any gaps with small sticks.
7. Make a loop from wire to hang it from.
8. Hang on a wall, ideally facing into the morning sun. Position it near plants because ladybirds like to eat aphids. If it is low down and near a pond it may be used by dragonflies and solitary bees too.

Photo and instructions from Herbs and Dragonflies.