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## TIPS TO INCREASE THE SUCCESS OF YOUR BUG HOTEL



Surround your bee hotel with flowers such as lavender, scabius and salvia, known to attract bees.



Ensure the entrance to your bee hotel is unblocked and clear of overgrown vegetation.



If you become aware of birds pecking at your hotel, consider attaching a mesh screen (3cm x 3cm) to the front. Position it 5-10cm from the nest holes in the hotel so that noisy beaks can't get in.



### OVERWINTERING



If your bee hotel is in a sheltered spot, it should be safe to leave it in situ over winter. If its position is more exposed, however, take it down at the end of October and store it in a cool, dry shed or garage (not a greenhouse) and then put it back out come spring.

### ONGOING CARE



Once installed, you shouldn't really need to do much to your bee hotel - after all, you don't want to disturb any creatures that have taken up residence. Replace any mouldy filling material, if you see it and remove any spiders webs you find as this could signal nearby predators.

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## GET TO KNOW YOUR BEE HOTEL

Your Bee Friendly Trust bee hotel is designed to support solitary bees, which don't live in hives like honey bees. Watch out for leafcutter bees, red mason bees or blue mason bees taking refuge.



# CREATING HABITATS FOR BEES TO THRIVE

Did you know there are around 270 species of bee in the UK?

The Bee Friendly Trust creates forage-rich, floral habitats where these bees (plus other pollinators) can thrive.

But we need your help!

The Bee Friendly Trust is a registered charity (No. 1161614). Every donation made to the Bee Friendly Trust helps to transform even more areas of, often, abandoned land into bee-friendly wildlife havens.

To donate, scan the QR code or visit [beefriendlytrust.org](https://beefriendlytrust.org).

PUT YOUR BEE HOTEL UP IN SPRING, WHEN BEES ARE BEGINNING TO LOOK FOR PLACES TO LIVE

bee hotel, position it around 1-1.5m off the ground. This will also protect the bee hotel against potential flooding.

Finally, consider whether you want to have to overwinter your hive (see overleaf). A spot that is sheltered from wind, rain and wintry elements will mean you could leave your bee hotel in situ all year round.

For more tips on keeping a successful bee hotel, including the best plants to place nearby and what other insects you might expect to see, visit [beefriendlytrust.org](https://beefriendlytrust.org).

## POSITIONING YOUR BEE HOTEL

Choosing the correct spot for your bee hotel is crucial for ensuring it's success as a safe haven for the bees and other insects in your garden.

We recommend choosing a south or south-east facing spot, as this will ensure the bee hotel receives morning sun but also shade come intensely hot summer days.

Attach your bee hotel to a sturdy surface - be it a wall or mature tree trunk - and ensure it is strongly secured so it won't rock in any wind.

To minimise the risk of predators attacking what's residing inside your



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