

# MAKE A Bug Box

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From staff reports  
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Not all insects found in your garden are ones that you should get bugged about. Some eat the bad insects that can harm your garden and also help provide the valuable nutrients that it needs.

## Beneficial insects include:

- **Bees:** They're important for pollination.
- **Wasps:** They eat aphids, mites, whiteflies, caterpillar eggs, moth larvae, beetles and corn earwigs.
- **Praying mantis:** They eat aphids.
- **Ladybugs:** They eat aphids, mealy bugs and mites.
- **Beetles:** Ground beetles eat caterpillars, slugs and cut worms.
- **Spiders:** They eat lots of different pests.
- **Green lacewings:** They eat aphids, mites and a variety of pest eggs.

You can purchase these insects at a variety of nurseries or attract them to your garden by using specific plants. Another fun way of attracting these bugs is to make them feel at home by building them a house, using easy-to-find lumber scraps, logs, sticks or bamboo canes. This bug house can be used year round. During the summer, bugs can use them for egg laying, and in the winter it can be used for hibernation.

## What you'll need

- Untreated wood
- Hollow bamboo cane
- Various tree limbs
- Drill, drill bits
- Saw
- Nails, screws, glue



**Step 1**  
Assemble your lumber scraps together using nails, screws or wood glue, leaving the front of the box open.



**Step 2**  
Cut strips of hollow bamboo and tree limbs into short lengths. Use different sizes to accommodate the different sizes of bugs.



**Step 3**  
Assemble the pieces into the box, making a tight fit or use a bit of glue.



**Step 4**  
Drill holes of various sizes into small pieces of logs.



**Step 5**  
Decorate bug box if desired. Mount the bug box onto a wall or fence, or hang it from a tree or archway. Place it in a sunny, sheltered place, out of the wind, but close to your garden.