



How to create bee hotels

What is a bee hotel and why build one?

Native bees are excellent pollinators of native plants, fruit trees and vegetables. They are a great asset in home gardens, and some plants rely specifically on native bees to help them reproduce.

However, bee populations are declining worldwide because of urban population growth and loss of habitat. They need a nest to survive, and in the wild they tend to use one of three types of nest. Some species dig net tunnels in the ground, while others excavate nesting holes in the stems of certain plants. Other species use abandoned holes left by burrowing insects in timber. Bee hotels are a great way of providing habitat and nesting sites for native bees.

How do I build a bee hotel?

There are many different resources available that can help guide you in creating a bee or insect hotel. There are also different ways you can go about it. Below are some links to get you started.

- Create a [traditional 'house' structure](#) for your garden.
- Quick tips on [materials, design and features of a bee hotel](#).
- If you are interested in design and technology and have access to a CNC machine, you might like to look into the [Bee Home Project](#)- where you can design a bee hotel with selected materials and send it to a local makerspace to fabricate and produce it

What else do I need to consider?

Creating a bee hotel is great, but it's important to think about where you will put it. Whether in your own backyard, the school garden, or maybe a local reserve- are the other conditions right there for native bees? You can use these resources to guide you:

- [Gardening tips for native bees.](#)
- [Food for native bees.](#)