



# Creepy Crawly Critter House

What better time to prepare your garden for all those lovely bugs, butterflies and bees!

Insects are really important for our wild and back-garden habitats. They are essential for pollinating the plants and also for breaking down all the rotting leaves and wood. No matter the size of garden you have, even if it's just a window ledge, you can create a mansion fit for any mini-beast!

**But is it expensive to make a bug hotel? – No, it can be completely free!** All you will need to do is look around for an unwanted storage box, draw even a small shelf unit, or why not a rummage in your recycling! After this, search in nature for objects that insect will love ♥

**Still unsure what to use? Here are some ideas to get you started:**

## Natural items

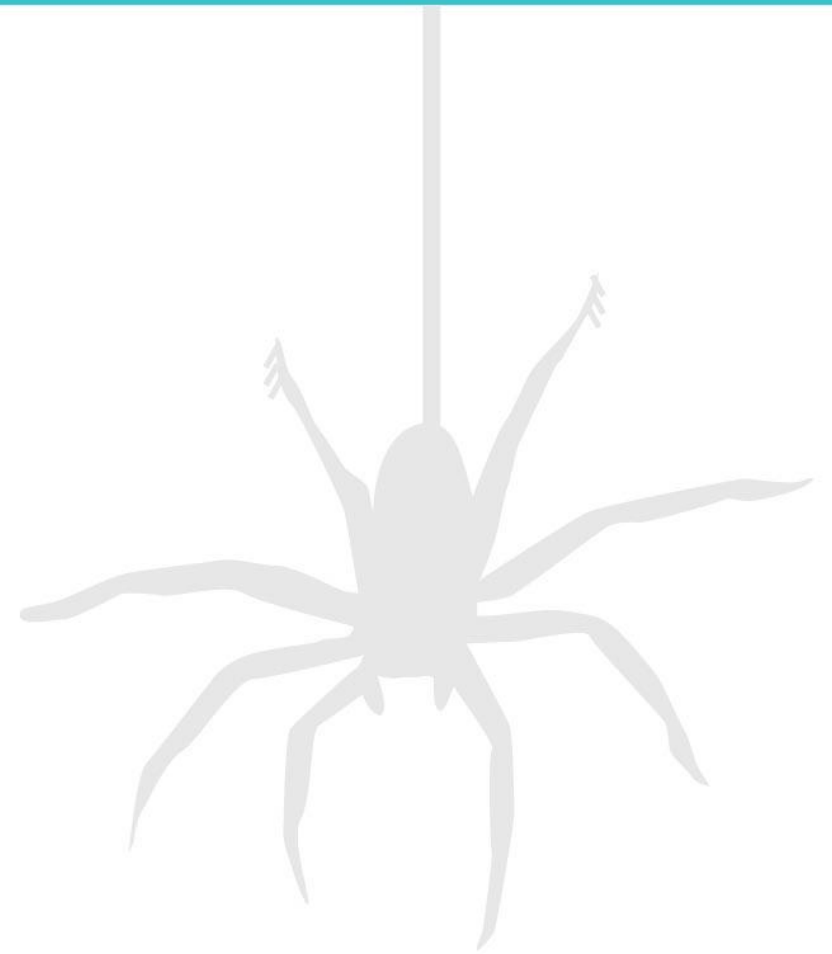
Take a walk in nature or in your garden to collect some of these:

- Leaves, moss and grass
- Sticks, twigs and bark
- Pinecones
- Nut shells
- Sea shells
- Stones
- Bamboo canes
- Flowers
- Rotting logs and tree stumps

## Recycled items

Take a look at what you can you reuse from your house or garden:

- Milk bottles and plastic bottle
- Cardboard – tubes or rolled up
- Drain pipes
- Bricks and roof tiles
- Plant pots or old tires
- Wooden pallets
- Old drawers and photo frames
- Old shelf units/bookcases
- Chicken wire
- Lollypop sticks
- Tin cans
- Old coffee mugs



## Who likes what?

Ladybirds – Straw, dried grass, hay and leaves

Beetles – Dead rotting wood, tree bark, twigs

Woodlice and Centipedes – decaying leaves, rotting wood

Spiders – leaves, twigs, pinecones, bricks

Bees – bamboo canes, logs with holes drilled into them

Slugs and Snails – Bricks, plant pots, tiles

Butterflies – long, upright gaps between bricks and wood



## Let's design a bug hotel!

Log piles also make great homes for all kinds of insect life – no matter how many legs they have!

Fill the gaps with natural materials to make a cosy bed for your favourite bugs

