

# BUILD A LOG PILE

A log pile will support a wide range of wildlife, including moss, fungi and insects and other invertebrates. It will also attract a range of small mammals, reptiles, amphibians and birds that will visit to prey on the insect residents. One pile of logs can quickly become a flourishing wildlife habitat.

You will need:

- Dead wood of various shapes and sizes
- A shaded damp area
- Twigs and Branches
- Bucket with lots of holes cut in it (optional)

**1** Collect your wood! The best place is to get it from your own garden when tree work is already being done. You may already have some lying around from the winter. Just make sure you don't help yourself from a local park. The wildlife there needs that.

**2** It is good to have a selection of larger and smaller logs and branches to build your pile and try to use logs with the bark still on as many creatures like to live underneath it.

**3** Once you have your wood, find a spot to start building. The best spot is somewhere shaded, damp spot away from living shrubs, plants and trees.

**4** You don't even need a garden to create a log pile. You can use a bucket with lots of holes drilled in to allow creatures to access the logs. Fill the bucket with your wood and some wood chipping too if you can and place it on your balcony or outdoor space you want to encourage wildlife to use.

**5** When building your log pile you don't have to be neat but make sure it is stable. You can put stakes into the ground either side of your pile to keep the logs from rolling.

**6** Alternatively, you can create a loggery or standing wood pile by partially burying logs stood upright (approx 45-50 cm deep). Create a rough pyramid shape by burying logs of different length side-by-side.

**7** Now all that's left to do is wait and see the wildlife that your new log pile attracts. Don't forget to share with us your finished creation.



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