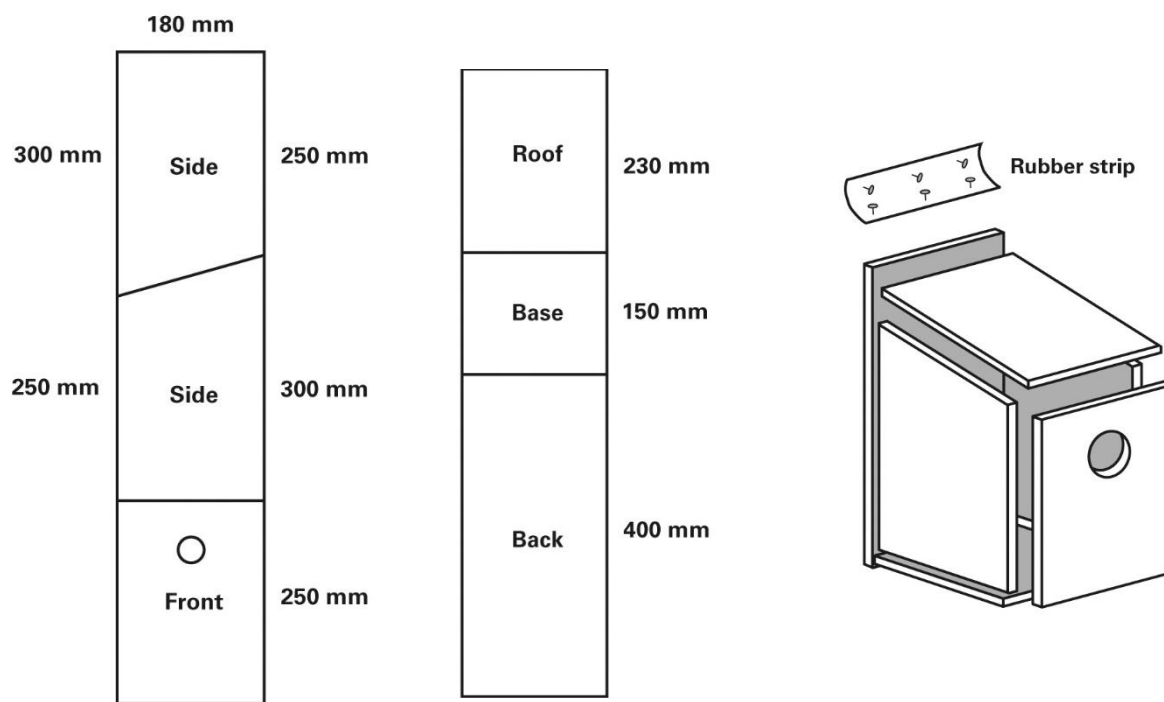


## Helping Nature at Home

**Making a Bird Box** – create a bird box and watch as come spring they use it for a nest and to raise their chicks



### What you will need:

- Untreated plank of wood 18cm x 1.6m x 1.5cm thick
- Screws, saw, drill, 30mm drill bit, tape measure, tacks, hammer, pencil
- Rubber strip or roofing felt

### Instructions:

1. Cut up your untreated wood into the dimensions in the diagram above. You may wish to label the different parts in pencil. It is important to use untreated wood as the chemicals in treated wood can be harmful to birds.
2. Starting with your two side panels, line them against the edges of your back panel and screw them together. Next attach the bottom panel using more screws.
3. Take your front panel of wood and measure halfway along and 7cm from the top. Drill a hole with your 30mm drill bit, this will enable small birds to enter your bird box. If you wanted to attract larger birds such as starlings to use your nest box you could use a 45mm drill bit instead.
4. Next screw on your front panel onto the edges of the side panels.
5. Cut your rubber strip or roofing felt to a size of 18cm by 5cm. This will create a flexible hinge so that you can open the bird box for cleaning.
6. Using tacks, hammer the rubber strip or roofing felt onto both the lid and the back panel.
7. Your bird box is now complete and all you need to do next is to find a suitable spot in your garden to attach it to. The bird box needs to be at least 2-3m off the ground to protect it from predators and ideally in a north or east direction to avoid strong sunlight.