



mansfieldmuseum

# Make a Bug Hotel



Mansfield  
District Council



Building a bug hotel for the garden is a fun project to do with the family. Building homemade bug hotels provide a welcome refuge to beneficial insects, which we could not have fruits and vegetables without. It is a great way to recycle plastic bottles or tin cans. There are a few different ways you can make them. Why not follow the steps below.



- Please get an adult to help when cutting plastic bottles and tin cans.
- Make sure there are **NO** sharp edges which could hurt someone.

## Plastic Bottles and Tin Cans:

- Cut your bottle down to size carefully OR make sure your tin can has both ends of the can removed.
- Gather your materials - hollowed out bamboo canes, sticks and dried moss are great for these. You can also use rolled up corrugated cardboard.
- Make sure any sticks and canes are cut to a similar length before putting them into the bottle.
- If you are going to hang your bug hotel, loop some garden twine or string through the bottle, before filling it too full.



## Plastic Bottles:

- Cut a number of circles out from the sides of your bottle.
- Stuff the bottle with dried moss and leaves, so that it is nearly full.
- Push a long thin stick or skewer into about 3 of the holes, so that they are still sticking out a little.
- Make a hole in the lid of the bottle, and thread through a length of twine or string. Tie a knot in the lid end of the string, so that it doesn't pull through, and replace the lid onto the bottle.
- Hang your bug hotel in a tree, using the attached string.

