



GROWING THE FUTURE
TYFU'R DYFODOL

MAKING A HEDGEHOG HOME



MAKING A HEDGEHOG HOUSE FROM RECYCLED MATERIAL

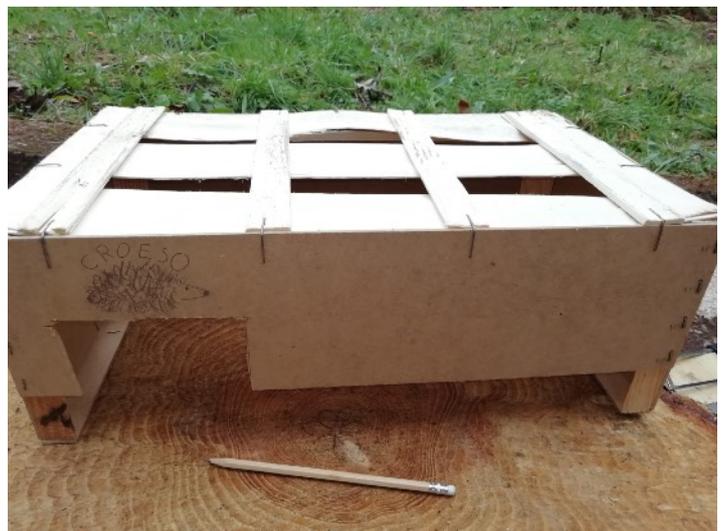
What you will need:

- A wooden fruit box (These can be found in most fruit and veg shops usually containing oranges, ask the owner of the shop and let them know why you are wanting it)
- Flat piece of wood about 0.5cm thick, large enough to cover the top of the wooden box
- Ruler
- Pencil
- Small wood saw
- Glove
- Small hammer
- 6-12 nails x 1cm length

Method (Adult help required):

Making the Doorway

1. Turn the fruit box upside down and place on the floor. 2/3 along the side of the wooden box, make an entrance hole for the hedgehog 12cm square.
2. Using the ruler and pencil measure and draw a square:
12cm up from the floor
12cm across the top
12cm down to the floor
3. Place a glove on the hand that is holding the wood.
4. **(Help required)** Carefully cut out the hole with a wood saw following the pencil lines.



Covering the Top

1. Keep the fruit box upside down and using the thin wood measure the wood to fit the top of the box, so that there are no gaps for water to seep in.
2. Mark the wood with a pencil line.
3. Place a glove on the hand that will hold the wood (this stops you cutting your hand if the saw slips, ouch!).
4. **(Help required)** Carefully hold the wood securely and use the wood saw to cut along the pencil line.
5. Keep the glove on the same hand to hold the nail (this saves bashing your thumb, ouch!).
6. **(Help required)** Carefully nail the wood to the top of the box through the thickest parts of the box.
7. You now have a hedgehog house to cover with leaves and wood and position in the garden.

Positioning the Hedgehog House

1. Place the hedgehog house under a sheltered bush or wall, facing away from the prevailing and north east winds. This will make sure that the rain or snow will not come into the house.
2. Put some straw or dry leaves inside the hedgehog house.
3. Cover the top and sides of the hedgehog house with dry leaves to provide insulation and warmth.
4. Cover the leaves and hedgehog house (leaving the entrance open) with logs of wood, bark and branches. This provides protection and camouflage for the house and hibernating hedgehog.
5. Leave the hedgehog house undisturbed until the spring when it can be cleaned out and refreshed.



If you have enjoyed making your hedgehog house why not make a few to give to friends and family to encourage more hedgehogs to hibernate for the winter in your area.

We would love to see the hedgehog houses that you have made, share them with us by using **@GTFCymru** and **#GrowingTheFuture**. **Let's have fun in nature together!**

GROWING THE FUTURE

The Growing the Future project at the National Botanic Garden of Wales is a five-year project to champion Welsh horticulture, plants for pollinators, the protection of wildlife and the virtues of growing plants for food, fun, health and well-being.

Whether you are a seasoned gardener, a fledgling grower or a budding beekeeper – we want to help provide training, information and support to you. For more information on the project's events and courses, please call **01558 667150**, email gtf@gardenofwales.org.uk or visit botanicgarden.wales/science/growing-the-future.

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