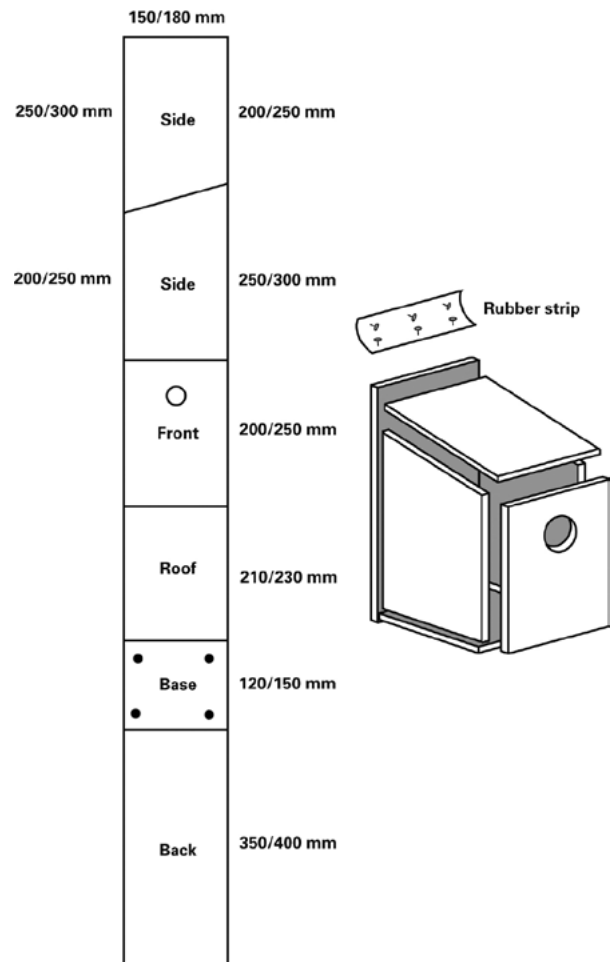


Make a nestbox

If you'd like to help the birds in your garden, why not have a go at making your own nestbox?

Please ask an adult to help as you may need to use tools that could hurt you.

1. Natural nest holes don't come in standard sizes, but please use the sizes below as a guide. Use a plank about 150 mm wide and 15 mm thick. Use the diagram to help you.
2. The inside of the box must be at least 100 mm square. The bottom of the entrance hole must be at least 125 mm from the floor. If it is less, young birds might be scooped out by a cat.
3. Use galvanised nails or screws. The inside front surface should be rough, to help the young birds grip when they clamber up. A drainage hole in the base will help to stop the box getting damp inside.
4. Hinge the lid with a strip of leather or rubber – an old piece of bicycle inner tube would do. Do not nail the lid down, because you will need to clean out the box in autumn. Instead, use a catch to keep it closed.
5. The entrance hole size depends on the type of bird you want to attract:
 - 25 mm for coal tits (mountainous areas only)
 - 28 mm for great tits
 - 32 mm for house sparrows



Take a picture and share it with us! We would be delighted to see the new bird home you've built!

Send us your pictures to elena.markitani@birdlifecyprus.org.cy