



MATERIALS

Ruler

Large plastic coffee or other container with lid

Permanent marker or pen

Pointy-tipped scissors

Paint (optional)

Nail

String

COFFEE TUB NEST BOX

Many birds nest in holes, or cavities, in trees. Nest boxes are a great way to give cavity nesters more places to lay eggs and raise chicks. The trick is to cut the perfect-sized entry hole for the kind of bird you want to move in. So choose a bird, grab a plastic tub, and measure twice before cutting the hole.

HOW TO



1 Choose a hole size from the chart. Measure and draw the same-sized hole between the center and the edge of the lid (not right in the middle).

2 With adult help, cut out the hole.

3 Paint the nest tub, if you like.


HOLE CHART

FOR THESE BIRDS...	...CUT THIS SIZE HOLE
House Wren, chickadees	1½ inches (2.9 cm)
Titmouse, some warblers, Red-breasted Nuthatch	1¼ inches (3.2 cm)
Swallows, White-breasted Nuthatch	1⅝ inches (3.5 cm)
Eastern and Western Bluebird, Carolina Wren	1½ inches (3.8 cm)
Flycatchers, Mountain Bluebird	1⅞ inches (4 cm)

MEASUREMENTS ARE DIAMETERS.



4 Poke two holes in the side of the tub with a nail. Slip a length of string through the holes and tie it in a loop. Hang the nest box in a protected spot.

 Want to make a wooden nest box? Look for the web address on page 175.