



## HOW TO MAKE A BAT BOX

The bat box you will make in this activity will be suitable for most of Britain's bats. For this activity you will need the help of an adult to make and fit the box. For the box you will need a piece of wood (see illustration) that is suitable for use outside - ask at your local Do-It-Yourself shop. The wood needs to be cut to the dimensions in the illustration below - please ask the shop assistant or another adult to do this. The grooves in the back plate, which can be made by a wood-saw, are important as this is where the bats grip onto and hang upside down to sleep.

If you enjoyed making the box why not make some more!!

## WHERE TO POSITION THE BOX

Boxes can be positioned in a warm, dry place which has open access to the outside, such as the roof of a shed or garage as long as it's three metres above the ground. Other suitable locations include the south-east (check with a compass) side of a tall tree or on a building with eaves. Do not expect bats to live in the box straight away. If the box does become a home for bats, do not disturb them during hibernation (November to March) or when they have young (June to July).

Remember - All bats are protected by law.

It is illegal to hurt them or destroy their homes so if you try to identify bats do so with minimum disturbance.

