

THE NESTBOX COMPANY LTD

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Nesting boxes thoughtfully designed for their inhabitants!

THE LARGE BIRD NEST BOX

Contrary to popular belief, there is no "best" time to put up bird nest boxes.

Birds will quickly become familiar with boxes erected during the latter part of the year and may well use them for winter roosts. Boxes erected by February stand the best chance of being used that season, but it is not unusual for birds to take up residence in a box later in the year.

The important thing is to site the box correctly in a position where the birds will be safe from potential predators.

SITING

Large Bird Nest Boxes can be fixed to walls, fences, trees or buildings. If the site is exposed it is advisable to position them so that the opening is not exposed to the sun or the wettest weather, and when fixing, try to position them at an angle so that rain is directed away from the entrance hole.

Choose a spot around 2 to 3 metres above ground level where there is easy flight access to the opening, and above all make sure that they cannot be reached by any marauding cats. The box can be fixed in place using screws or nails or on a tree using string or wire.

MANAGEMENT

It is advisable to clean out boxes in October/November. Any fleas or other parasites that have built up should be killed off with boiling water and any unhatched eggs should be removed.

During the breeding season it is very tempting to open the box to see what is happening, but this should only be done with great caution. Never open a box when it contains any young or the parents may well desert with disastrous results. It is far better to watch the activities from a reasonable distance and to enjoy the pleasure of a successful brood brought off the nest.



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