

THE NESTBOX COMPANY LTD

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Nesting boxes thoughtfully designed for their inhabitants!

THE LITTLE OWL 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

Little Owl Nest Boxes can be fixed to walls, fences, trees or buildings. These owls prefer a dark and quiet location, so site the box facing away from direct sun, but not exposed to 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 make sure that they are unlikely to be visited by any marauding cats. The box can be fixed in place using screws or nails or on a tree using string or wire. A natural perch close by will be welcomed by the male while the female incubates the eggs.

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.

Never open the box during the breeding season when it may contain eggs or young, as 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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