



MAKE A MINI WILDLIFE POND

Stuff you'll need

- A shallow dish or bowl, or anything else that can be filled. An old watertight container like a washing up bowl, an old kitchen sink or a large plant pot.
- Small stones or gravel.
- Pebbles, rocks or twigs.
- A couple of native aquatic plants (optional).



Step-by-step guide

1. Pick a spot on your patch that gets some sun but isn't in full sunlight all day. Dig a hole if you can and place the container in it.
2. Fill your container with water, using rainwater if possible - see our rain chain resource for one way to collect rainwater! If you need to use tap water, fill your container and then leave it for 24 hours to let any chlorine evaporate.
3. Put some gravel in the bottom. Create little stepping stones or ladders with pebbles, rocks or twigs

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Step-by-step guide

4. Add a couple of native aquatic plants if you can. Great plants for small ponds include: miniature waterlily, lesser spearwort, starwort and flowering rush. Most garden centres stock these, but you might find better deals online. Lookout for freebies on your local Facebook group or Freecycle pages.

5. Over the next few months, your pond will develop an ecosystem of its own. Leave it alone and let nature do its job. Don't be tempted to introduce tadpoles, frogs, fish or even water from another pond as it can spread disease. Depending on where your patch is, your pond could attract wildlife including pond skaters, water boatmans, dragonflies, damselflies, hoverflies, bees, frogs, toads, bats and birds!



IDENTIFY THE PLANTS AND WILDLIFE YOU ATTRACT TO YOUR PATCH WITH THIS AWESOME APP



TOP TIPS FOR PROVIDING WATER FOR WILDLIFE

1. Grab free/low cost pebbles/rocks/sand/gravel/plants for your water features by asking on your local Facebook group or checking out sites like [Gumtree](#) and [Freecycle](#).
2. Put water in a place that you can easily see so you can observe all the wildlife you're attracting to your patch!
3. Clean and fill your baths, ponds and puddles regularly.
4. When it's cold, check your water for freezing and break the ice when you need to. When the weather is very hot, you may need to fill it up more frequently.

