

Recycled Mason Bee Hotel via Pacific Beach Coalition

MATERIALS:

- Medium size tin can (beans or vegetables work)
- 2 toilet paper rolls
- Sheets of paper
- Glue
- Tape
- Paint for the tin can (optional)
- Sandpaper or file

1. Sand or file the open end of the can to make sure it isn't sharp.
2. If you'd like, paint the can with fun colors and designs.
3. Measure the length of your can and cut your paper in a way that the length of the paper roll will fit inside the can. The band of paper should be ~5 inches long (half the length of a sheet of paper). The goal is to have a roll of 5 layers minimum.
4. Roll the paper around a pencil to get the right shape, then tape the edge of the paper band to the roll to keep the diameter, remove the pencil. Create rolls of 1/4in up to 1/2in. You will need ~30 rolls, depending on the size of your tin can and paper rolls.
5. Apply a thin layer of glue at the bottom of your can and place your 2 toilet paper rolls where you wish inside the can. Fill up the empty space with your paper rolls.
6. Once done shake your can slightly and make sure that everything stays in place. Add more glue at the bottom or more paper rolls to keep things sturdy if needed.
7. Find an open, sunny spot which isn't shaded by plants, about 3ft from the ground. The fixing must be secure – the can shouldn't flap and move about in the wind.



In addition to these easy bee hotels, there are several DIY plans to make more complex and sophisticated insect hotels, that provide habitat for a wide variety of insects. Check out these resources:

- [Urban Garden](#)
- [Modern Farmer](#)
- [Michigan State University](#)
- [Wildlife Trust](#)
- [The Honeybee Conservancy](#)