

A butterfly's dream

The butterfly's dream should be hung on a sheltered and half-shaded place. The roof can be opened, but note that butterflies like to hang down from the roof when it's cold outside. So open it only during warmer months.

Material:

A. Wooden parts: The wooden parts should be made of 15mm strong plywood.

Material	Quantity	Measurements	✓
Floor	1	height/length: 200 mm, width: 180 mm	
Front panel	1	height/length: 350 mm, width: 200 mm	
Side panel	2	height/length: 250 mm, width: 180 mm	
Back panel	1	height/length: 350 mm, width: 200 mm	
Roof panel	1	height/length: 150 mm, width: 230 mm	
Roof panel	1	height/length: 135 mm, width: 230 mm	
Wooden bars	3	length: 180 mm, width: 15 mm, depth: 15 mm	

B. Additional material

Material	Quantity	Measurements	✓
Screws		length: ca. 30 mm	
Glue	1		
Twigs	2-3		

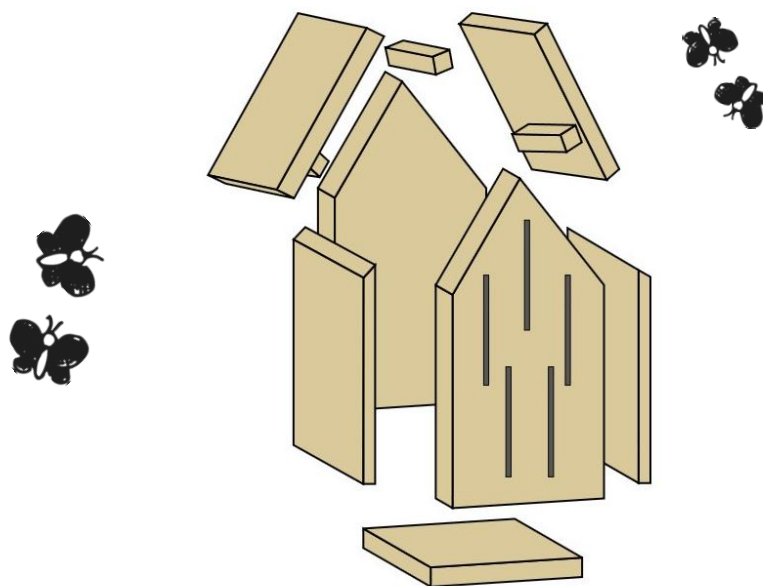
C. Tools

Material	Quantity	Measurements	✓
Fretsaw	1		
Drill	1		
Cordless screwdriver	1		

Inspired by „Ideenbuch Insektenhotels – 30 Nisthilfen einfach selbst gebaut“
by Melanie von Orlow published in Ulmer Verlag 2013.



Construction - Figure:



Construction:

Before you start, please read the general construction and maintenance rules and keep them in mind.

1. For the roof: glue and drill both parts in a 90° angle together. The smaller part should be placed underneath the longer one, so that in the end both roof sides have the same length.
2. To place the roof on the house saw the upper part of the front and back panel, so that you have the shape of a 90° angle.
3. Cut the upper edges of the side panels in a 45° angle so that the roof fits smoothly on them.
4. To build entrances for the butterflies you have to saw five slots with the height of 8 cm and the width of 1.2 cm. File the cutting edges smoothly so that the insects are not hurting themselves when entering the house.
5. Then glue the floor and the panels together and stabilize them with screws.
6. The three small bars are needed to stabilize the roof, so that the roof cannot slip off to the front or back. For this, both roof panels get a bar and the inner angle of the roof top as well. Start by measuring the distance of 8.5 to 10 cm from the inner side of the roof's gable. That is the area, in which the bars should be placed. The last one has to be glued just right into the middle of the roof top.
7. Place the twigs in an upright position into the house, so that the butterflies can hold onto them – keep in mind that there should be still enough free space for the butterflies to move around inside their house.