

# Hotel for the wild cousins

The hotel for the wild cousins consists of two wooden blocks of different sizes, which are equipped with holes. The roof is supported by a wooden wedge and the top floor is filled with bamboo or reed stems. The holes and stems hung at a sheltered place on the balcony are a great nesting place for the mason bee and their friends. The entrances of the holes should point in a southeastern direction.

## **Material:**

A. **Wooden parts:** The wooden parts should be from solid wood. For the back panel you should use plywood.

Material	Quantity	Measurements	✓
Big block	1	length: 240 mm, width: 180 mm, depth: 100 mm	
Small block	1	length: 200 mm, width: 120 mm, depth: 100 mm	
Roof panel	1	length: 320 mm, width: 140 mm, depth: 18 mm	
Roof panel	1	length: 340 mm, width: 140 mm, depth: 18 mm	
Wedge	1	length: 120 mm, width: 100 mm, depth: 18 mm	
Back panel	1	length: 400 mm, width: 300 mm, depth: 5 mm	

## B. **Additional material**

Material	Quantity	Measurement	✓
Fill material	1	Bamboo or reed stems (9-10 cm)	
Weatherproof paint or roofing felt			
Glue	1		
Screws		40 mm	
Nails		30 mm	

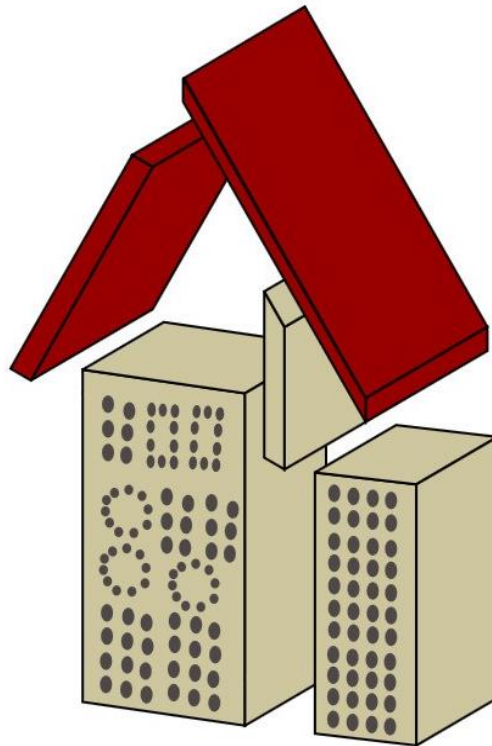
## C. **Tools**

Material	Quantity	Measurements	✓
Sandpaper and round file	1		
Jig or circular saw	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:



*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 protect the hotel from rain you can either paint it with an environmentally friendly paint or top it with some roofing felt.
3. The wooden wedge will be placed on the smaller block to stabilize the roof. To make sure that the roof fits tight on the wedge, you have to bevel it in a 45° angle.
4. You can now drill holes into both blocks. The arrangement of the holes is up to you but you should take care of the relation between diameter and depth. You find more detailed information about that on our website under the section “advice concerning your construction materials”.
5. To prevent injuries, grind and file all cut edges (also those of the bamboo and the reed stems), surfaces and drilled holes.
6. Now glue both blocks together.
7. The roof wedge is placed on the smaller block and fitted to the bigger block. Fix it with glue and screws.

8. Then use glue to connect the roof to the blocks and the wedge and add screws to stabilize the construction. Be aware that you have an overhang on the front side but not on the back side.  
*It might be helpful to place the whole construction on its rear side to make sure that all pieces are flush on the back.*
9. To be able to cut the plywood back panel to the right size, put the whole construction onto it and draw its outlines onto the plywood. After having cut the plywood into the right shape you can fix the back panel with some nails to the blocks and the roof.
10. The rooftop can now be filled with the bamboo and reed stems. If necessary this can be fixed with some glue.

