

## DIY PROJECT

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# BAT ROOSTING BOX

*This easy DIY project, from Rose Hughes, will provide a roosting and resting site for a rare and threatened native bat.*



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## MATERIALS

**You will need** • 1.6m 200 x 20mm (approx.) untreated rough sawn pine (smooth, planed wood means the bats have nothing to grip on)  
• 8 x 40mm screws • Sandpaper • Screwdriver, drill bit and countersink bit • Drop saw • Paint and a paintbrush • Hooks and wire

### Cutting list:

Back • 1 x 450mm  
Centre • 1 x 330mm  
Front • 1 x 210mm  
Rails • 1 x 330mm  
Roof • 1 x 250mm  
(width reduced to 160mm)

**Cost:** approx. \$10 excluding paint.

**1** Cut the timber as per the cutting list. Cut 2 x 20mm wide lengths off 330mm rail. Shorten the remaining rail to 210mm and cut 2 x 15mm lengths off.

**2** Match the centre and front with their rails. Drill, countersink and screw the rails to the front. Matching the top edge, drill, countersink and screw the centre piece to the front railed side, avoiding the rail screws.

**3** Drill, countersink and screw the rails to the centre piece. Attach the back piece to the centre rails, avoiding the rail screws. Drill, countersink and screw the roof on. Sand any rough edges

**4** Paint any surfaces that the bats won't come into contact with. I used Resene Waterborne Woodsman in Pickled Bluewood and added a bat stencil for fun. To hang, I used screws each side and picture hanging wire. ❀

• There's info on where to position your bat box in the story on page 30.