

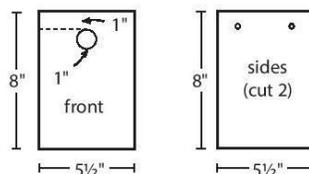
# Backyard Birdhouse

## Activity Supplies

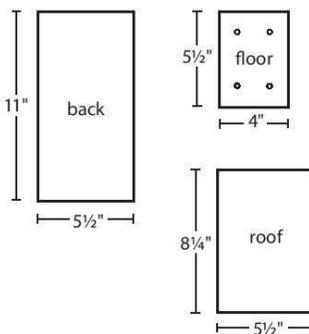
- Birdhouse kit
- Screwdriver/power drill
- Screws
- Sandpaper

## Activity Instructions

1. Start with front and one side, hold them so the side piece is behind the front piece. Using included screws attach the front to the side. It may be a little wobbly but will get more secure as you add more pieces



2. Repeat step one with the other side piece.
3. Attach Bottom piece to the front.
4. Lay your birdhouse so that the front is flat on table. Place the back down on top of your assembled pieces so that the edge of the back is even with the edge of the bottom.



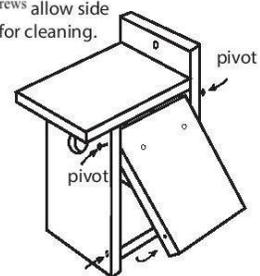
5. Use screws to attach the back to the rest of the birdhouse.
6. Stand your birdhouse so that the bottom is resting on the table, set the roof piece down so that the predrilled holes line up with the sides and front.

Note: these dimensions are for 3/4" thick board. Some cedar boards are 5/8" thick. If so, the floor must be 3 3/4" wide, not 4".

Lumber: 1" x 6" x 4'

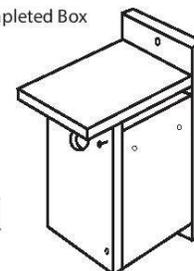
7. Attach Roof.
8. One side should be attached only at the top. This side should be able to swing out for cleaning. If yours doesn't move, loosen screws until it does.
9. If your birdhouse has any sharp or rough edges use the included sandpaper to remove them.
10. Birds prefer their houses to look natural, if you decide to paint your house make sure you use colors that camouflage the house from predators

Two "pivot" screws allow side to swing out for cleaning.



Use a nail or screw at bottom to keep side closed.

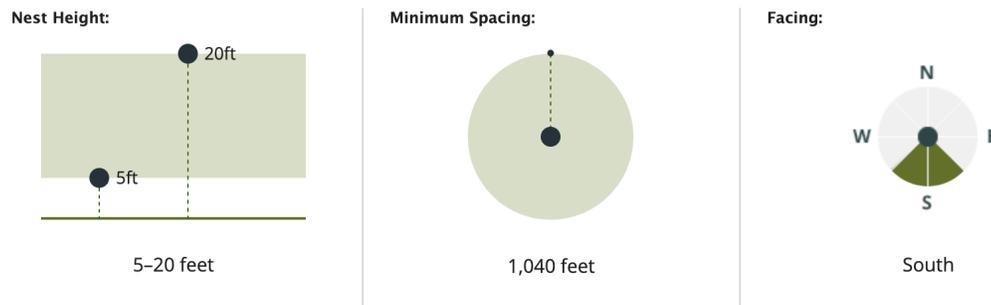
Completed Box



## Hanging instructions

1. Use enclosed nail or screw to attach box to wooden post or fence. You can also hang your birdhouse from a tree using heavy wire or rope (not included). To prevent damage to trees do not directly nail/screw into the tree.
2. Use the graphic below for hanging guidelines.

### Nest Box Placement



### Essential Question

1. Why do birds choose to live in birdhouses?

### Additional Resources

The Cornell Lab of Ornithology - [Nestwatch.org](https://nestwatch.org)

Audubon for Kids - <https://www.audubon.org/get-outside/activities/audubon-for-kids>

### Outdoor Activity

- Take a nature walk with your family at Lincoln Memorial Garden or through your neighborhood and make notes of the bird songs you hear and try to identify those calls using online resources.
- Spend some time observing the birds in your backyard. Notice how they interact with each other. Do they chase each other? Do different species of birds have contact with each other? What kind of behaviors do the birds have? Do they fly in a certain pattern or move in a special way? You can add your observations to your nature journal.

### Follow up questions

1. Do you think any birds will nest in your birdhouse? What do you think is the best time of year to find birds in your birdhouse (spring or summer, this is the time of year most birds build nests and lay eggs)
2. What are some ways that you can protect your birdhouse and it's occupants from other animals such as squirrels, snakes, and raccoons?
3. Do you think the same bird will return to your birdhouse or will it be a different bird of the same species, or a different species?

## Common Backyard birds

		
Chickadee	Cardinals	Blue Jay
		
Goldfinch	Bluebird	Indigo Bunting
		
Tufted Titmouse	Carolina Wren	Sparrow
		
Nuthatch	Purple Finch	Downy Woodpecker

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