

Cascades Raptor Center

Nest Box Specifications

Species	Floor of Cavity <i>Inches</i>	Cavity Depth <i>Inches</i>	Entrance above Floor <i>Inches</i>	Size of Entrance <i>Inches</i>	Height above Ground <i>Feet</i>	
Screech Owl		8 x 8	15 to 18	12 to 14	4	10-30
Open wooded areas on dead trees above surrounding foliage. Add wood shavings.						
Barn Owl		16 x 24	18	8	6	12-18
Locate near buildings, barns, or open fields.						
Bluebird		5 x 5	8	6	1½	5-10
Place in open sunlit areas on fence posts or trees.						
Robin		6 x 8	8	*	*	6-15
Place in shaded parts of trees or under eaves of house or shed.						
Barn Swallow		6 x 6	6	*	*	8-12
Place a number of shelves together under the eaves of buildings near water.						
Chickadee		4 x 4	8-10	6-8	1¼	6-15
Prefer rustic houses. Place along wooded areas or in old orchards.						
Nuthatch		4 x 4	8-10	6-8	1¼	12-20
Prefer rustic houses. Place along wooded areas or in old orchards.						
Wrens		4 x 4	6-8	1-6	1	6-10
Any partly sunlit spot. These houses may be hung from a tree limb.						
Tree Swallow		5 x 5	6	1-5	1½	10-15
Place several boxes together on a post or dead tree near water.						
Barn Swallow		6 x 6	6	*	*	8-12
Place a number of shelves together under the eaves of buildings near water.						
Purple Martin		6 x 6	6	1	2½	15-20
A colony of houses together near a pond or stream will attract these birds.						
Flicker		7 x 7	16-18	14-16	2½	6-20
Prefer rustic houses. Place along wooded areas or in old orchards.						
Downy Woodpecker		4 x 4	8-10	6-8	1¼	6-20
Same as flicker. Rustic houses will probably be more acceptable.						
Wood Duck		8 x 10	24	16	4	15
Place facing toward water. Add 4" of wood shavings. Provide drain holes in bottom.						

*Two or more sides open.

Building suggestions: Rough cedar or exterior plywood are good, durable building materials. Rough wood should be used so young birds can climb out. Several ¼" ventilation holes should be provided to prevent suffocation of young birds. Drill three or four ¼" holes in the floor for drainage. Galvanized nails or brass screws will not rust like ordinary nails. Clean and repair boxes at least once every other year. Build so one side, front, top, or bottom can be easily opened for cleaning.

General placement suggestions: Boxes that face away from storms are more inviting to birds. Young birds will not become trapped in boxes that tilt forward at the top. Placement should prohibit predator access from above or below, including cats, raccoons, snakes.