

Small garden/paved garden

Tips to attract birds

Use vertical plants/climbers – with obelisks, trellis, wigwams as supports. Also good for birds to perch on! Clematis montana is fast growing and great cover for small birds!

Hammer some nails into fence posts and hanging fat filled coconuts and other tasty treats from them.

Small bird feeding tables which come with a bracket can be attached to a fence. Position in near some cover & the birds might get a bit more confident.



Most holders for square fat cakes will happily lie flat against a fence if you hammer a nail in for them.

Plant up some pots and troughs and sprinkle birdseed & fat nibblets in amongst the plants - dunnocks love it!

For your planted pots get some little bowl shaped feeders on sticks, put different types of seed & fat nibblets or suet in each.

Don't forget a bird bath – make it a decent sized one and birds will come to drink and bathe & hopefully notice your food too!

Plant a small fruiting tree/bush such as black or redcurrants in a large pot on your patio for natural food sources.

Use hanging basket brackets on your house or fence to hang any variety of seed & nut feeders from them.

You can also get various small feeders which attach to windows with suction pads. A few of those dotted around could bring the birds very close to you.

A rotary washing line, if you have one, is good for hanging things on, if you don't mind the odd bit of poo on the laundry!

Grow ivy...it's relatively cheap, it is evergreen, so it provides all year round cover, it is good for hiding & perching & quite a few birds love ivy berries. You may even get lucky and find a wren making his nest! Just remember to keep it trimmed and under control or it can spread very easily!



During the breeding/fledging season treat your birds to some live food (eg mealworms & waxworms). If the adult birds notice & use your garden to gather live food for their nestlings, they are likely to bring their fledglings in to your garden to feed too. Then hopefully when the babies grow up they will associate your patch with food & satisfaction so will return more readily!

Plant as many insect-attractive plants anywhere you can (pots, hanging basket, border, etc.) Get or make some insect/mini-beast hotels or bug-friendly habitats. Insect-loving birds will soon follow!

Avoid getting rid of "pests" at all costs. Snails, slugs, ants, greenfly, spiders, caterpillars...they're all food for someone & although they might be a pain for you, your feathered friends will enjoy them & you will enjoy your feathered friends!

In fact, if you can bear it, grow a few plants which caterpillars, slugs & snails are well known to attack... only one more short hop up the food chain & you've got your birds.

Don't be too tidy. Leaf litter bugs, longer grass loving bugs, the seeds of weeds, mossy roofs & gutters... are all good for birds. If you keep your garden & exterior of house too pristine you will eliminate some bird's chances of finding the things they are used to looking for in the "scruffy" wild.



**We'd love to see your gardens in all their wildlife-friendly glory!
Share on our socials @SongBirdSBS or email your pictures to:
dawn-chorus@songbird-survival.org.uk**

Learn more about National Robin Day, Ruby Robin and what you can do to help all birds and wildlife at:

www.songbird-survival.org.uk/national-robin-day



National Robin Day
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