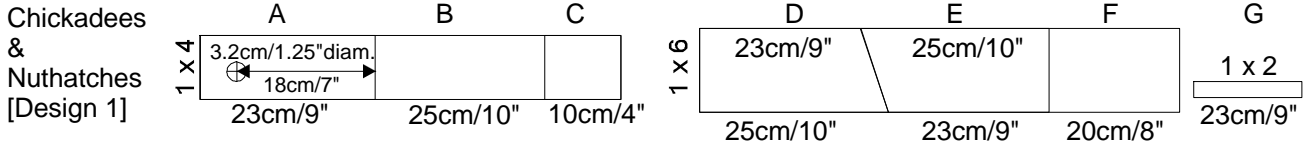


Nest Box Building Instructions for Victoria Birds

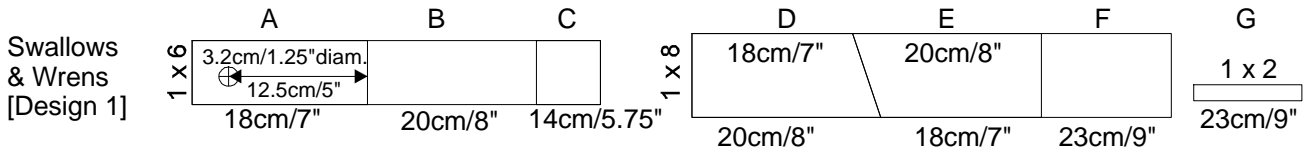
NEST BOX SPECIFICS

To build the following boxes, all you need is a hand saw, hammer, nails, and a drill with some drill bits. The plans below are made to use regular wood from a lumberyard. We recommend rough cedar (smooth 1 side) 1x2, 1x4, 1x6, 1x8, 1x10, 1x12, and 2x4 (real dimension is smaller than these numbers, eg. 1x12 is actually 3/4"x11 1/4"). Cut the lumber as measured below. Assembly instructions are on the next page.

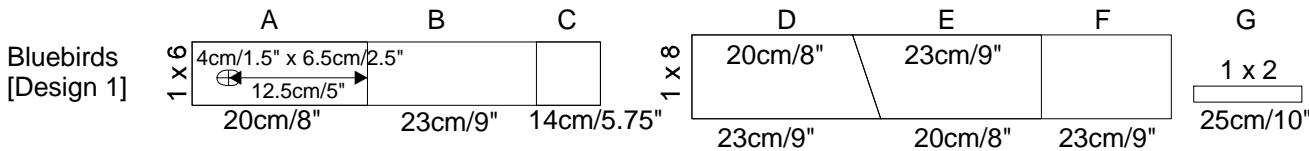
Species	Front (cm/in) A	Back (cm/in) B	Floor (cm/in) C	Side (cm/in) D	Side (cm/in) E	Roof (cm/in) F	Hanger (cm/in) G
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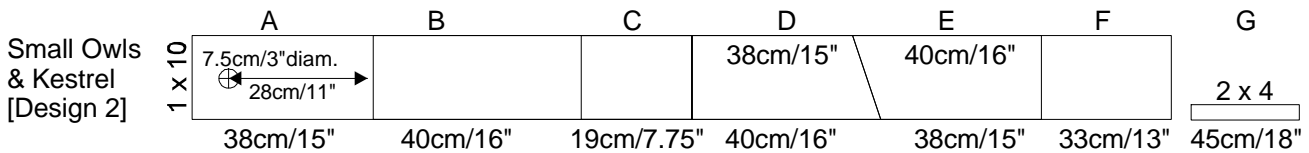
Box Location: Suburban or rural locations with mixed forest stands. Height: 1.5-20m up on the trunk of a tree with branches for cover. Nest Materials: Moss and stiff hair (horse or dog). For nuthatches fill the box with sawdust even with bottom of entrance hole (chainsaw chips work well) - also works for chickadees.



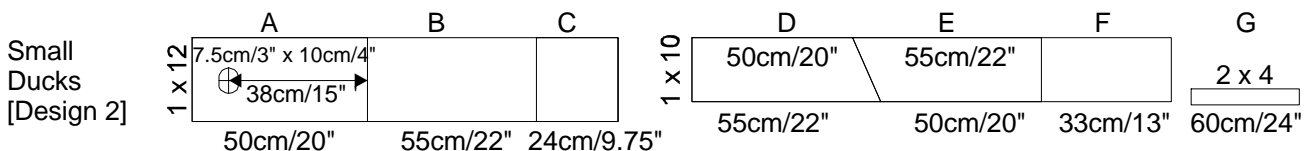
Box Location: Suburban or rural locations with a mixture of trees and open areas. Height: 1.5-10m on poles, trees, or the side of a building. Nest Materials: Feathers, dry grasses and small twigs. Purple Martins nest in coastal areas of the Georgia Depression. For nestbox plans consult the Wildlife in British Columbia at Risk Purple Martin brochure available from the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks.



Box Location: Open, sunlit fields. Height: 1.5 to 3m on fence-posts or trees. Nest Materials: Dry grasses. Box designs are continually being improved; check with your local naturalist clubs and birding magazines.



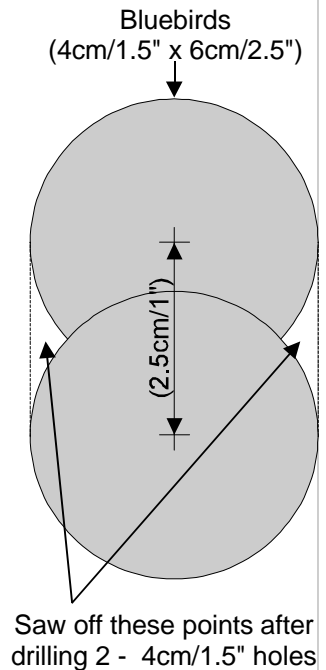
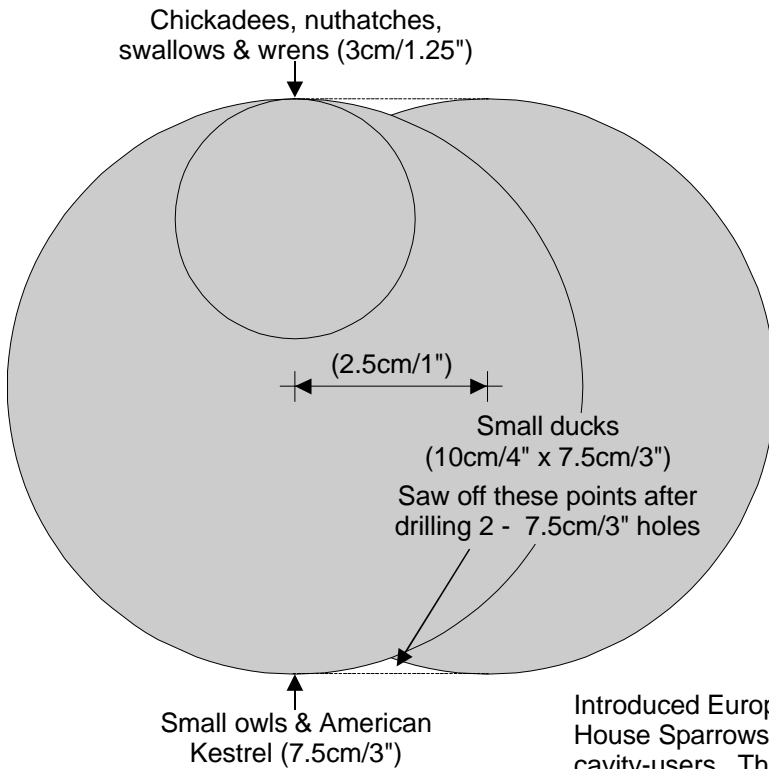
Box Location: Suburban or rural locations on a forest edge bordering a field or wetland area. Height: 3-10m up on a tree (north-facing if possible). Nest Materials: 5-7cm of coarse sawdust in the bottom of the box with horizontal saw grooves (or stapled chicken wire) below entrance hole to help young birds climb out.



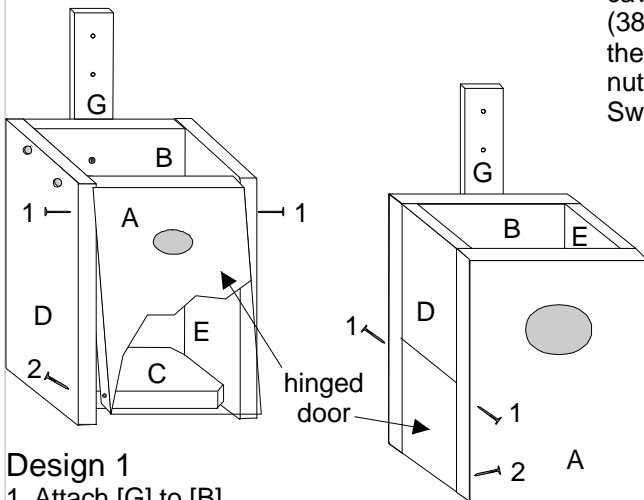
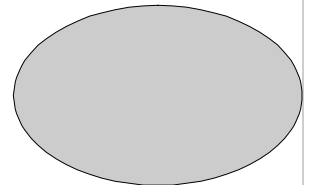
Box Location: Must be within 1 km of large pond or lake. Height: 1.5 to 20m up a tree or pole near or over water. Nest Materials: 5-7cm of coarse sawdust in the bottom of the box with horizontal saw grooves (or stapled chicken wire) below entrance hole to help young birds climb out. Use this box and the hole-sizes on the next page for Barred Owl (mixed forest) and Barn Owl (open field/barns).

ENTRANCE HOLE CUT-OUTS

Photocopy this page, then trace desired pattern onto wood with carbon paper. Alternate method: use appropriate hole-saw and jig-saw to join, if needed.



Introduced European Starlings and House Sparrows compete with native cavity-users. This oval hole (38mm/1.5" x 23mm/15/16") will keep them out, while letting chickadees, nuthatches, swallows (except Tree Swallows), and wrens in.



Design 1

1. Attach [G] to [B]
2. Attach [C] to [B]
3. Attach [D] to [B & C]
4. Attach [E] to [B & C]
5. Attach [A] to box, using only top nails [1] as shown for hinges
6. Attach [F] (not shown) to top of box
7. Drill oversized holes (angled downward) to accept locking nails [2]

Design 2

1. Attach [G] to [B]
2. Attach [C] to [B]
3. Attach [E] to [B & C]
4. Attach [A] to [C & E]
5. Cut [D] in half and attach top half to [A & B]
6. Attach bottom of [D] next, using only top nails [1] as shown
7. Follow steps 6 & 7 of Design 1

NESTBOX TIPS

- To find out which cavity nesting birds breed in your eco-province, consult your local natural history club or the Birds of British Columbia.
- For detailed dimensions of a variety of bat box designs, consult the Bat House Builder's Handbook available from Bat Conservation International.
- Barn Swallows and American Robins will use a 15cm/6" piece of 1x8 attached to the side of a building or tree.
- Use a 15cm/6" square opening in the small duck size box for both Barn and Barred Owls. For Barn Owls, place the opening near the bottom.
- These nest box designs are for species most likely to use artificial structures. You may also attract woodpeckers (fill box with sawdust) and small mammals such as squirrels.
- Finally, placing and maintaining these nest structures does not eliminate the need for preserving wildlife habitat.