

# The Wildlife Garden Project

# Mini Guide to Helping Hedgehogs

Seen anything prickly snuffling around your hedge recently? Hedgehogs are having a hard time at present because there are fewer hedges and less undergrowth for them to move around in undetected. The hogs need your help! Firstly you need to make sure hedgehogs can get into your garden. Talk to your neighbours about creating a wildlife corridor by putting 15cm holes in your fences so hedgehogs can squeeze between gardens easily.



Keep a pile of leaves in the corner near a hole in the fence or by a hedge for hogs to forage and hide in. Try building a home for your hedgehog - it should be dry and big enough for them to have a nice snugly bed inside.

Take a look at this one on the left for inspiration! If you have a pond, make sure it has shallow edges so hedgehogs can easily climb out if they fall in.

Hedgehogs love to munch on worms, beetles, caterpillars, earwigs and millipedes. You can attract these to your garden by having log piles, long grass and untidy areas. Supplement this natural diet by leaving out meaty cat or dog food and fresh water (never milk and bread). Place food in a hedgehog house to avoid the local cat population getting to it first. Avoid using slug pellets in your garden as it can give hedgehogs a tummy ache. After all, hedgehogs are a natural pest controller!

*Hedgehogs sometimes use bonfires as hiding places. Always thoroughly check or move your bonfire before lighting to avoid any disasters.*

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