

The Wildlife Garden Project

Mini Guide to Reptiles and Amphibians

Does springtime in your garden bring the sound of croaking frogs? If not here are some handy hints on how to make your garden a ribbiting success! Reptiles and amphibians could be your new best friends as they gobble up all of those slugs and garden pests. Try adding piles of composting leaves or bits of wood in the corners of your garden to allow your new friends to hide, find food and hibernate somewhere safe over winter.



If you want to encourage frogs, toads and newts to your garden, providing a pond is a guaranteed win and it won't take long for them to find their new pad. You'll soon find swarms of frogspawn! Make sure you have some shallow edges as well as some deep open water to keep the tadpoles happy. Watch them wriggle and grow into fully fledged frogs and toads. Make sure your pond has a sloping edge to allow them to get out easily.



You can still help reptiles and amphibians if you don't have a pond. Snakes and lizards love basking in the sun so provide some nice flat rocks in sunny spots but keep your eyes peeled as they can be shy. Corrugated tin sheets work well as a basking spot too and an area of long grass gives a concealed hunting arena for snakes to ambush their prey! Grass snakes and slow worms (a type of legless lizard) love warm compost heaps so keep an eye out for those too!



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