

# Swift Pipe Nest-box

## Installation Instructions

The Swift Pipe nest-box is made out of recycled offcuts of water or waste-water pipe, OD 180mm, internal diameter 158mm. It is water-proof, long-lasting and relatively light weight (~3kg). The box comes with 2 removable ends, a plywood floor, and 2 M6 x 60mm dowel screws, 2 wing nuts, 2 washers, 2 spacers and 2 Rawlplugs.

### Location

Choose a location that avoids the heat of the mid-day sun, with a clear flyway in front, at least 4 metres high. North and east facing walls are suitable. South facing walls should only be used if the box can be shaded under broad eaves.

### Installation

1. Measure carefully the distance between the two holes on the back of the box - this may vary slightly for different boxes.
2. Drill two 7mm holes, this distance apart, in the wall. If the box is to be placed flush under the eaves, then these holes need to be 90mm below the eaves soffit.
3. Insert Rawlplugs in the holes.
4. Put two wing nuts back to back on the first dowel screw and screw into the Rawlplug, until 24mm of thread is left protruding from the wall. Repeat for the 2<sup>nd</sup> dowel screw.
5. Remove the end nearer the entrance from the box (easy to start with your thumb inside the entrance).
6. Bolt the box to the wall, using the wing-nuts, washers and spacers as in the diagrams overleaf. Make sure the entrance is facing slightly down (22.5°)
7. Make sure the plywood floor is horizontal. It is a good idea to stick it down with Blutack.
8. Replace the end in the box. If it is tight, place a piece of plywood on the end and bang it in with a hammer. A smear of vaseline may help.

### Play the Swift CD of duetting Swifts

You can obtain the CD at <http://www.swift-conservation.org/Shopping!.htm>.

Place the speakers as near to the box as possible, though in a window, or on the ground is also effective, and may be easier to install. The calls can be played anytime between dawn and dusk, but especially when Swifts around. The main target is prospecting non-breeders that arrive from late May onwards. Please note, that Swifts can take a while to find new nest sites, so be patient.

Good luck!

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