



Make an amphibian abode

3 years and up

Around 40% of amphibian species are threatened with extinction.

You can help them by creating an underground den where frogs, toads and newts can hibernate through the winter's chill, safe from predators. They like a cool, dark and damp shelter a little way underground. Give them a helping hand by making them a home full of nooks & crannies.



You will need: Cut-off twigs and branches, logs, old bricks or large stones, a spade

Choose a spot in your garden where you can dig a hole in the ground about 30-45 cm deep to part-bury your collection of logs and stones. A shady or semi-shady spot is best.

Dig a round hole with a flat bottom. Pile the soil to one side as you go. Once big enough, fill it with the logs, bricks & stones so that it doesn't collapse. Don't pack them too tightly as you want gaps for the creatures to crawl into.

Keep piling material on until you have a low mound above ground level.

To top it off pile on the soil you dug out of the hole. Leave some gaps around the edges of the mound for the amphibians to be able to crawl into.

If you have some you can even sprinkle a little wildflower seed over the soil on top of and around the edges of your mansion – amphibians will love their garden path being damp and sheltered. Or you could just add some branches and twigs for camouflage.

You can pop out with a torch on a damp evening in spring or summer to see if any residents are emerging.



Bringing nature nearer