Siting, cleaning and caring for your bat box

Siting

Bat boxes should be securely placed on a tree or wall about 5m up although lower heights may also be used. They can be screwed on with the brackets provided or held securely with wire. Avoid places exposed to the wildest weather. A spot with some sunshine for warmth will attract roosting bats and a cooler spot will attract hibernating bats. For this reason it is preferable to have a few boxes in varying places. A box can be put up at any time as it may be used in winter for hibernation or other times as a roost. Bats often fly close to a tree line so locating a box close to such a feature will increase the chance of it being used.

Cleaning

Please be careful to ensure the box is unoccupied before cleaning as all bats are protected by law and a licence is required to disturb or handle them. The front of the standard box can be unscrewed and removed for easy cleaning. Simply screw it back on afterwards. The double chambered box does not open as detritus can fall directly out of it, however you may want to remove cobwebs etc using a handy stick. After cleaning out with a brush, leaving the opened box in direct sunlight will help the UV rays to perform a naturally antiseptic function. Please do not use cleaning products, chemicals, insecticides or flea treatments.

Maintaining your box

Once the box has been fixed in place it is best left alone so as not to disturb the bats. If you wish you may apply a coat of boiled linseed oil to the outside using a clean decorating brush or cloth. This has been done at manufacture and helps feed the wood as well as creating a water resistant coating. This protection helps with bat box longevity.

Ethos

This product has been designed to have minimal environmental impact with virtually no waste products.

What has been recycled? Where possible all the wood, metal, plastic or other materials used are recycled and would have gone to landfill or been burnt.
What has not been recycled? Nails, screws and glue where used.

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