

# Build a Bird Box

Bird	Floor Size	Front	Back	Side At Front	Side At Back	Entrance From Floor	Diameter Of Entrance	Roof	Height Above Ground
Blue Bird Ron's plan "-Inches '-Feet	51/2 x 4'	9 x 5" ½	13 x 5" ½	9 x 5" ½	9 x 5 ½"	7'	1 ½ "	9 x 5" ½	5' to 10'

## Notes:

- Ron Deptuck's design of Blue Bird boxes are easy to build. Use 1"x 6" untreated boards. The boxes have been very successful at Cold Creek Conservation Area and in the field behind my house.
- We get house wrens, trees swallows, blue birds, chickadees and the occasional nuthatches and great crested fly catchers in the boxes.
- All measurements are in inches. Tools etc. hammer, drill, 3/8 bit and 2" bit, 1 1/2" galvanized nails, square, saw, # 8, 1 1/2" screws, screw driver, 4 screws 2 ½". 1 baffle, a utility knife. Baffles can be seen on line or use a steel 1 gallon paint can with a hole to just fit over a 4' length of 2x4. The hole can be cut in the bottom of the can. Slip the can over the 2x4 and screw in place using the steel flap on the can turned up.
- Cut 1 board 13"x 51/2", Cut 4 boards 9' x 51/2". Cut 1 board 4"x51/2'.
- Put the 2 sides on the back but, leave enough space top and bottom to fix the box to a post.
- Put in 2 screws at the top of the door. Use 2 2 ½" screws. There are 2 screws at the top of the door and one at the bottom so it can swing up to clean the box each fall. Leave a space of ¼" at the top so the door can rotate up.
- Using a utility knife cut 2 diagonal lies under the entrance. The small birds use these to hold onto. Don't put on a perch as predators can hold onto perches.
- Put on the roof and put in the floor.
- Drill 3 3/8s hole on each side at the top for ventilation and 4 in the bottom for drainage. Be careful not to hit a nail.
- Put one 2 ½" screw one on the top and one on the bottom of the back to be able to screw up the box.
- Do not paint or stain the box inside because the paint box can be toxic to the young. Ron uses linseed oil and turpentine mix of 2 parts linseed oil to 1 part turpentine on the outside to seal the wood.
- To install a box, find a spot free of branches and put in 1 6' T bar. Screw the 2x4 with the bird box and baffle to the t bar. Face the box east. The baffle is essential to keep predators, CATS, and others away from the nest.