

# Making a pond

Putting a pond in your garden is one of the best things you can do to help wildlife. It can provide water for birds and mammals and a fantastic habitat for pond creatures and amphibians. Here we have suggested an old washing up bowl, but you can use anything water tight as a liner. Please note care should always be taken with children around open water.

## What you will need

- An old washing up bowl
- Gravel
- A few larger stones
- A piece of wood
- A spade or trowel to dig with

## Instructions

1 Choose a site for your pond. Somewhere quite sunny is better if you can.

2 Dig a hole for your bowl which will leave the top just slightly above the level of the soil.

3 Put gravel in the bottom of the pond and add larger stones to create different depths. Don't forget to add a ramp made out of a short length of wood so that creatures can get in and out of the pond.

4 Fill it up! If you can use rainwater, then that is better, but tap water is still OK.

5 If you like, you can add a couple of aquatic plants like miniature water lily and lesser spearwort, but you don't have to. Don't overcrowd your pond with plants.

6 Sit back and watch the wildlife come to you!

Once your pond is established you could consider making a toad hole near your pond.

