

# MAKING A LOG PILE

Dead wood supports more life than a living tree. It is an important place for bugs to live in, and creates a hiding place and feeding station for other animals.



## Materials:

- Logs, twigs and sticks
- Compost, leaves and grass cuttings

## What to do:

### Step 1: Choose a spot in the garden

Somewhere that isn't in direct sunlight all day is perfect, especially if it is near other features which provide cover e.g. hedges, shrubs or long grass. If you have a pond, setting it nearby will attract many amphibians.



### Step 2: Build your pile

Start with larger logs, layering them so there are plenty of gaps in between. As it gets bigger use smaller sticks and twigs. Make sure the structure is stable or it could be dangerous to wildlife and you. It does not have to be huge, even a small pile will provide nooks and crannies for creatures to hide in.



### Step 4: Add a final layer (optional)

Once your pile is complete it is a good idea to put a layer of soil and cut vegetation over the top to trap extra warmth. Or, with smaller piles, leave them open to encourage plants to grow in the gaps.

### Step 3: Start log watching!

It might not sound very exciting but keep an eye on your pile for wildlife going in and out of the gaps.

## Who will use it?

- Lizards or grass snakes (in some parts of the UK), coming out on early summer mornings to bask in the sun on top of the pile.
- Later in the year you may see frogs, toads or newts heading inside to find a suitable spot to over winter.



Froglife is a UK wildlife charity committed to the conservation of amphibians and reptiles - working with people, enhancing lives together for a healthier planet.

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