



LIFE16-CCA IT 000011  
DESERT ADAPT



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The purpose of the Desert-Adapt project is to demonstrate the effectiveness of a land management strategy designed to counteract degradation and desertification risk in Mediterranean areas exposed to progressive drought as a result of Climate Change



*Project carried out with funding  
of the European Commission - [www.desert-adapt.it](http://www.desert-adapt.it)*



## How to build a hotel for insects

<https://rivistanatura.com/come-costruire-un-hotel-per-gli-insetti/>

<https://www.halo-sandro.it/hotel-insetti-bug-hotel-orto/>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Insect\\_hotel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Insect_hotel)

<https://gardentherapy.ca/build-a-bug-hotel/>

<https://www.stellamccartney.com/experience/it/how-to-build-your-own-outdoor-bug-hotel/>

## Why help insects in our gardens?

Climate change and rising temperatures, together with intensive agricultural practices, create situations of loss of plant biodiversity, with consequent depopulation of insect colonies, including important pollinators and predators of agricultural pests.

To encourage the presence of useful insects, especially in the urban environment, the bug Hotels were born, that are refugees with the aim of protecting biodiversity and promoting the precious work of these insects. These structures can offer shelter and food to many insects and solitary bees; that is, those that do not live in hives but make their nests in small holes or fissures on the ground or on plants and are harmless to humans.

In natural environments	➔	Integrate the growing loss of natural habitats
In crops	➔	Encourage beneficial insects to control pests and pollinate plants
In urban gardens	➔	Stimulate biodiversity and ecological balance
For the youngest	➔	Help understand how ecosystems work

### What is a bug hotel?

A do-it-yourself bug hotel can be made with natural recycled materials, such as wood, dry logs, bark, bamboo canes. The aim is to attract bees and other beneficial insects based on the diversity of materials and the size of the holes of the various components.

## How to build a bug hotel?

*Some useful materials:* sticks, pierced pieces of wood, small terracotta pots overturned and filled with straw or sawdust, strips of bamboo canes, straw, pine cones, bark, some wooden boards, stones

- build a wooden frame of any shape, such as a rectangle or a hexagon, at least 10 cm deep to add the other materials. An old wooden box is also fine.
- secure a plywood backing to the rear bottom of the frame with nails. If the recycled frame already has a back, skip this step.
- If needed, protect the frame with two coats of linseed oil. Choose a color that suits your garden or the area where you plan to place the insect house. Install a roof to keep rain out.
- fill the frame with natural materials: twigs, bark, grass and leaves in the insect hotel until it is full. Create lots of small crevices for insects to hide and nest.
- place your bug hotel in the garden....



**And now  
wait up  
your first guests!**