

Installation

Mount each box with brackets, cables, or desired equipment.

- If using a wooden post, cover the post with a non-climbable material for 3 feet below the box (such as pipe or metal).
- Optional - cut the post and install a hinge (and latch to keep post upright) near the base so the box can be swung down for easy cleaning.

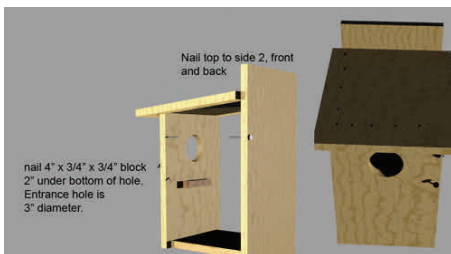
Special Considerations

Predators

- When placing a box, take care to reduce potential for predation.
- Do not place a nest where it will surely fail due to predators.

Nesting Sites

- Many locations may be suited for a nest box, such as along the edges of woods, forests, fences, and on or near buildings.
- More box sites means more options for a searching pair of birds to choose from, increasing odds of successful occupation.
- Place nest boxes where a natural cavity or site for the given species you are hoping to attract.



Songbirds

Facts:

- Nest boxes can support a variety of birds depending on the entrance hole on the nest box.
 - 1" entrance hole best for wren
 - 1.25-1.5" hole for bluebirds, tree swallows, and robins
 - 1.5" hole for chickadees, tree swallows, and nuthatch
- Songbirds eat insects, seeds, and berries.
- Some will eat as many as 300 insects a day.



Location:

- Boxes that face away from storms and that receive some shade during the day are often more attractive to birds.
- Robins and wrens may prefer nests to be hung on trees.
- Place robin boxes in shade.
- Place wren nests in partial sun.
- Other birds are content with nest boxes placed on posts.

Height:



Nest Box Placement & Information



INFORMATION PROVIDED BY:



POLK SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

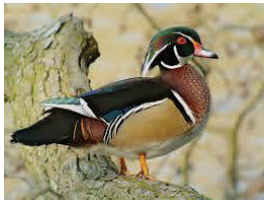
580 Main Street, Suite A
Dallas, OR 97338
503-623-9680
www.polkswcd.com

Wood Ducks



Facts:

- Wood ducks lay 9-14 eggs.
- If nests are too close to one another, females will lay eggs in neighboring boxes. These 'dump' nests can have up to 40 eggs and will be unsuccessful.
- The wood duck is the only N. American duck that regularly produces 2 broods in 1 year.



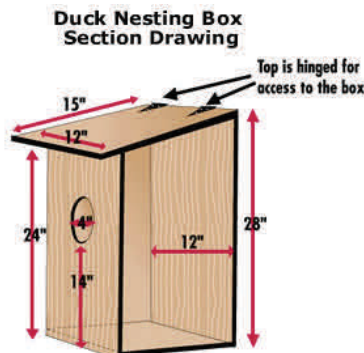
Location:

Wood ducks are very secretive when selecting nest sites.

- Avoid placing boxes directly on trees to reduce predation.
- If over water, put 4' above high water mark, facing open water.
- If on land, place 30-150' away from the shore.
- Ensure unobstructed path to water for ducklings.
- Place at least 600' apart, not visible to each other.

Height

15 feet or higher above the ground.



Barn Owls

Facts:

- Owls hunt at night (*it is okay to put nests near other birds.*)
- Barn owls lay up 7 eggs per clutch.
- They can nest year round.
- Their lifespan tends to be short at 2-4 years.

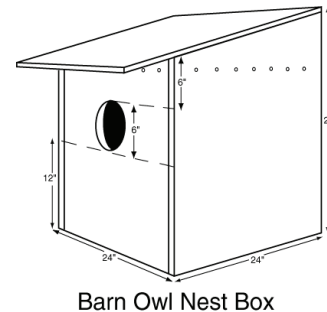
Location:

- Face the box toward an open area so that passing barn owls can spot the entrance hole when searching for nest sites.
 - Place on a tree, which closest resembles a natural site and provides shade.
- On a barn or building:*
- Fully enclosed - Cut a hole in the wall and place the box opening to the hole for access. Place near an eave for shelter.
 - Open barn or building - Inside is acceptable, but know an owl family can create a mess.



Height

Place 12-18 feet above the ground.



Kestrels and Flickers

Kestrel and Flickers use the same nest boxes.



Kestrel Facts:

- Kestrels are the smallest and most colorful falcons in North America
- They hunt mostly from a perch or by hovering, and are often seen sitting on power lines
- Kestrels lay 3-7 eggs that are white with brown flecks

Flicker Facts:

- They are one of the few woodpecker species that migrate
- Flickers lay 6-8 shiny white eggs



Location:

- Kestrels naturally use nesting cavities made by woodpeckers
- If placing to attract Kestrels, place boxes approximately a 1/4 mile apart or farther.
- Placing more boxes than this is acceptable if you are interested in attracting Flickers, and give both birds more options for nesting

Height

10 feet or higher above ground.

