

Become a Friend for Freshwater

We would be delighted if you would like to support our wider work to protect freshwater wildlife, and ensure people have opportunities to enjoy these wonderful places. We have achieved a lot so far and your support will make a significant difference to what we can achieve in the next few years.

I wish to pay monthly (suggested donation is £5) yearly one off gift

Title Name

Address

Postcode

Tel. number E-mail



Instruction to your Bank or Building Society to pay by Direct Debit



To the Manager (name of Bank/Building Society)

Address

Postcode

Name of Account holder

Branch Sort Code Bank/Building Society Account Number

Please pay Freshwater Habitats Trust Direct Debits from the account detailed in this Instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee.

Signed Date

Banks and Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit instructions from some types of account
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The Direct Debit Guarantee : This Guarantee is offered by all Banks and Building Societies that take part in the Direct Debit Scheme. The efficiency and security of the Scheme is monitored and protected by your own Bank or Building Society. If the amounts to be paid or the payment dates change, Freshwater Habitats Trust will notify you 14 working days in advance of your account being debited or as otherwise agreed. If an error is made by Freshwater Habitats Trust or your Bank or Building Society, you are guaranteed to a full and immediate refund from your branch of the amount paid. You can cancel a Direct Debit at any time by writing to your Bank or Building Society. Please also send a copy of your letter to us.

Gift Aid - If you are a UK tax payer, we can reclaim the tax on donations increasing the amount by 25%

I am a UK taxpayer and I wish the Freshwater Habitats Trust to reclaim tax on my donation.
By ticking the gift aid box and signing this form you are confirming you pay an amount of UK income or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax Freshwater Habitats Trust will claim and that they should treat all gifts of money that I have made in the past 4 years and all future gifts of money that I make from the date of this declaration as Gift Aid donations. You must notify the charity if your tax status changes or you are no longer a UK taxpayer.

Signed Date

Please return to: Freshwater Habitats Trust, First Floor, Bury Knowle House, North Place, Headington, Oxford, OX3 9HY

Choosing the right plants for your pond

Choose at least one submerged plant that will provide an underwater habitat.

Native plants that are good for this are:



Rigid hornwort
Ceratophyllum demersum



Water crowfoot
Ranunculus aquatilis



Spiked water milfoil
Myriophyllum spicatum

Floating plants can provide shade as well as colourful flowers that may be visited by pollinating insects.

Try plants like:



Frogbit
Hydrocharis morsus-ranae



Fringed water lily
Nymphoides peltata

You only need to add a couple of plants to the pond, but try for a mix of species.

Aim to have some that are submerged under the water, and other emergent species that come above the surface.

Only use native plants from a reputable source. Take care not to spread disease and invasive non-native species.

Try to include a plant that emerges above the water's surface.

Plants that are good for this are marginal plants:



Water mint
Mentha aquatica



Jointed rush
Juncus articulatus



Water forget-me-not
Myosotis scorpioides



Cyperus sedge
Carex pseudocyperus

Aquatic plants can be placed directly into the gravel at the bottom of the pond.

You don't need much, if any, soil. Never use fertiliser. You can use special aquatic compost but this isn't necessary. A bit of sand and gravel is fine.

If you want to pot up plants, use special pots (with lots of holes in them), or use an old pair of tights to make a cheap and flexible plant holder.



Make a home for freshwater wildlife!



Learn how you can create a container pond for your garden

freshwaterhabitats.org.uk

Let's go!

1 You can make use of anything you have laying around – an old washing up bowl or bucket, for example. Just make sure it's water-tight!



Find a container or liner for your pond

2 Ideally place your pond in or near some taller vegetation and bushes.



This will provide a bit of shade from the sun and stop it getting too hot in very sunny weather.

Pick a good location for your pond



3 You can either dig your pond into the soil or place it on a surface.

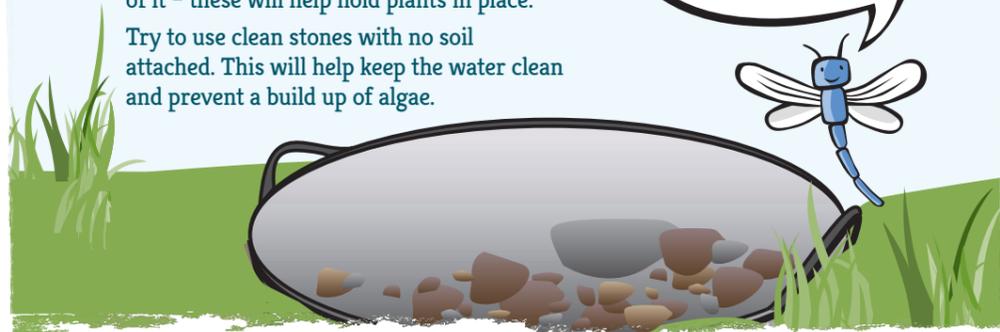
If sinking it into the ground, make sure the hole is wide and deep enough for your container to fit into. Try to get the top of the container level with the ground surface.

However, wildlife will still find a way into your pond, even if it's raised off the ground. You may just need to give a helping hand ...

Dig a hole for the container



4 Place your container into the ground. Put some stones or gravel into the bottom of it – these will help hold plants in place. Try to use clean stones with no soil attached. This will help keep the water clean and prevent a build up of algae.



These will help anchor plants to the bottom

5 Continue to pile rocks and logs around the edges to create shallow areas and provide a way for animals to get in and out of the pond.

Rocks, stones and old bricks allow all sorts of creatures to get in and out of the pond

If your pond is raised off the ground, do this on the outside too. This will help young frogs and toads to leave the pond after they develop from tadpoles.



6 It will also allow creatures such as birds and hedgehogs to come and drink from the pond.

Shallow areas also give us access for a drink or a bath



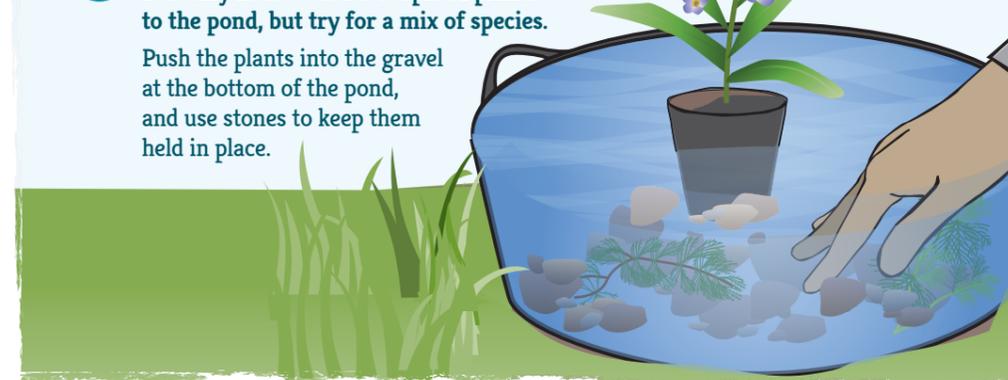
7 Allow the pond to fill naturally with rainwater, or fill it with rainwater collected in a bucket or water butt. Don't use tap water as this can contain chlorine and nutrients.



Only use rainwater to fill your pond

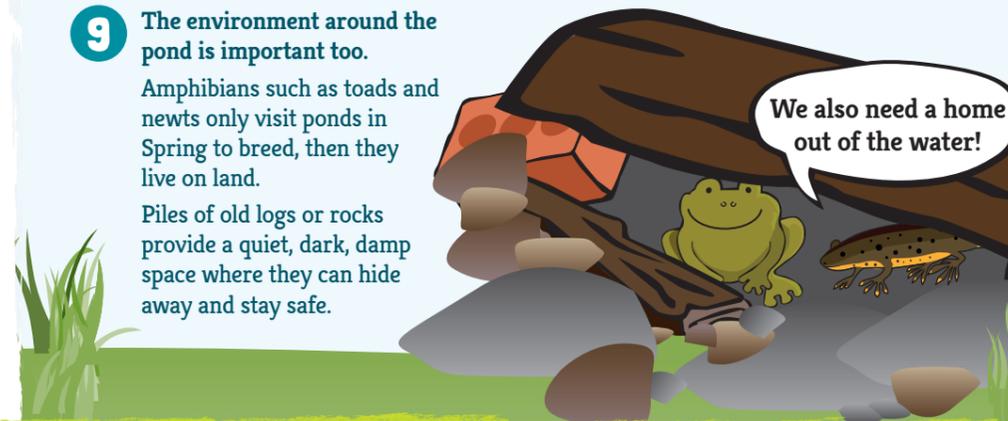
8 Now add some plants to the pond. You only need to add a couple of plants to the pond, but try for a mix of species.

Push the plants into the gravel at the bottom of the pond, and use stones to keep them held in place.



9 The environment around the pond is important too. Amphibians such as toads and newts only visit ponds in Spring to breed, then they live on land.

Piles of old logs or rocks provide a quiet, dark, damp space where they can hide away and stay safe.



We also need a home out of the water!

Thank you



About Freshwater Habitats Trust

Freshwater Habitats Trust is one of the UK's principal research and conservation charities for the protection and recovery of our most endangered freshwater habitats and species. We work in partnership to develop and deliver practical advice to help people manage and create new clean water habitats for wildlife.

We deliver our conservation aims through our expert staff and our practical conservation, community, research and policy work.

Our vision is that:

- All threatened freshwater plants and animals have recovered and developed sustainable populations.

- The UK has a functioning network of freshwater habitats.

- People value freshwater habitats and their wildlife.

Finally, sit back and enjoy your new pond!

freshwaterhabitats.org.uk