

How To: Make a Temporary Nest

The best thing for baby birds is to be cared for by the parents. If you have found a baby bird that is too young to leave the nest, and you cannot locate the nest/the nest has been destroyed, follow the steps below to create a new, temporary home.



BASE CONTAINER

Find a small basket or container to use as the nest. The container could be plastic, Tupperware, plastic berry basket, etc.



CONTAINER SIZE

Ideally the container should be small enough to keep the babies huddled together.

**the three rocks show size reference for baby birds and how they "huddle"*



NESTING MATERIAL

Add some soft, dry nesting material to the container such as dried leaves, pine needles, or paper towels.



ATTACHMENT

Using items around the house, devise a way to attach the nest to a tree.

The images show an example nest being attached with zip ties and a bungee cord. The nest needs to be attached securely enough to the tree to withstand weather, wind, parent visits, and growing babies.



Attach your nest to a tree, preferably the tree the nest came from or as close as possible to it.

Place the nest as far off the ground as you can as soon as possible. Make sure the nest has protection from direct sunlight and rain.



- 1. Put the babies in the replacement nest.**
- 2. Observe from a distance for 1 hour.**

Some bird parents try not to be seen to protect the location of their nest. One way to tell if the parents are visiting is to look for fresh poop in or on the edges of the nest.