HOGWATCH AT HOME

THE CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS



You can help the HogWatch project from home by trying out some fun and simple activities and looking out for the hedgehogs in your local area. You'll find a factsheet and instructions for the 'making' activities included here too.



If you have a garden, try leaving a 'messy corner'. Leave some longer grass to grow, make leaf and log piles. These are the perfect home and hunting ground for hedgehogs. Their favourite foods include beetles and worms, so make somewhere damp and dark!

Report Sightings

Have you seen a hedgehog in Scotland? We want to know - to add to our interactive map. If you have spotted one, in your garden or on the street let us know with:

- Status (alive / dead)
 - Where (postcode)
 - -When (date)

Hedgehog Highway



Hedgehogs need up to one mile each night to find enough food and a mate. Make sure you offer connected habitat by cutting a small hole in your fence. 13cm x 13cm is perfect (template included in this pack)- this allows them the freedom to move between gardens.





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Food and Drink

Footprint Tunnel

Hedgehogs rely more than ever on food from urban gardens. To encourage visitors to your garden leave out a shallow dish of water and some wet / dry cat or dog food. You can try placing these under a plastic box with a small hole cut (to prevent cats etc).

Remember hedgehogs are noctural and are active at night. To find out if you have a small visitor you can make a footprint tunnel. Hedgehog prints are like tiny human handprints (see photo). This pack comes with a worksheet on how to create your tunnel!





There are less than 350,000 hedgehogs left in Scotland.

There are quite a few injuries from rescued hedgehogs who have become tangled in netting / goals. If you have some in the garden, raise up the goals on two bricks to allow hedgehogs to pass underneath (or store them inside at night!)





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Spikey Crafts

Hedgehog Champion

Get creative with the leaves in your garden or local park - collect different sizes and textures and use the hedgehog template in this pack to create the spikes using natural materials. Be careful when collecting objects from the ground!

The Hedgehog Street project is the UK-wide companion to HogWatch (run by The People's Trust for Endangered Species).

Sign up as a Hedgehog
Champion for your area to receive free access to lots of resources and activities.

www.hedgehogstreet.

Hedgehog House





A resident hedgehog in your garden could benefit from some shelter. You can create a simple to more complex hedgehog house using a range of materials - starting from just some sticks and twigs to a plastic box.

Check out the 'how to' guide later in the pack.





Healthy hedgehog dinners

You can supplement a hedgehog's natural diet with these snacks:

- Specially made hedgehog foods both in dry and moist varieties now exist and can be bought from most local pet and garden stores.
- Hedgehogs will also relish any combination of meat-based wet dog or cat foods as these are high in the protein that they need.
- A shallow dish of fresh water, especially during dry or cold periods.
- Never give bread and milk. Hedgehogs are lactose intolerant so please do not give them milk. Bread is low in energy so fairly worthless to them.
- The hedgehog's natural diet mainly consists of slugs, ground beetles, caterpillars and worms so make sure there are lots of these living in your garden!



Bringing the wild back to life

Copies of all the resources here plus many more can be downloaded from www.hedgehogstreet.org

Remember to sign up as a Hedgehog Champion!

STREE HEDGEHOG

CITY OF WILDLIFE

winter callec nestsin Hedgehogs nibernation

scrub like bramble. They are durable rearing young in over summer nests for resting, sleeping, breeding and hog. They also make simpler day time to prevent dehydration for the sleeping hedgerows, fallen logs or in areas of 'hibernacula' – these can be under insulated and help maintain humidity

popular with our prickly visitors homemade houses tend to be more stores, or have a go at making your own need a helping hand. You can buy pre materials. But, sometimes hedgehogs shed, in compost heaps, shrubs, under nesting spots for 'hogs - under your Your garden can provide lots of great built hedgehog houses online or in leaf piles or under logs or spare building

disturbing amother can cause before the breeding season as left. But please male sure It's I've finished hibernating and housein March/April when her to abandon her hogiets. It's best to clean my

> the house. The presence o gardens and within 5m of along boundaries, in bac

sheltered locations,

best placed in

#ilon

pets or predators doesn't appear to put off a local

the house, as this can

someone is visiting your hog house,

moved you know entrance If it's twig over the Placea

food or waterinside Avoid putting

little away from my disturb me placea

hedgehog from

moving in

in and used for likely be taken left outside will or dry leaves Amy straw

cover with leaves/soil/grass cuttings or pet straw. You can cover the rest of the and provide some bedding like dry leaves box with some plastic sheeting and then Make an entrance that's 13cm x 13cm



Batons to raise box slightly off ground

The simple DIY Hedgehog House

has holes) and flip it upside down planter or milk crate (make sure it Take a spare plastic storage box

wood or bricks the house (optional) Soll, turd or Strawfdry learnes 11d tn place

13cm high (optional)

and red cedar). Don't nail the roof down (so getting into the house and can be made of that you can clean inside) and avoid using made from untreated wood (ideally durable Hedgehogs seem to love home-made houses paint. Tunnels help stop predators or cats UK softwood species like larch, Douglas fir The tricky DIY Hedgehog House



Hedgehog highway template

Did you know our hedgehogs are declining faster than tigers are worldwide?

Help today by making a Hedgehog Street in your area!

Take the first step - make an access hole at the bottom of the fence on each side of your garden using this template.

Next step - visit our website, www.hedgehogstreet.org for more tips and to join thousands of others in becoming a Hedgehog Champion.





DTES Reg. charity no. 274206 BHPS Reg. charity no. 1164542



13cm

13CM

Well recognised as the UK's favourite wild animal, the hedgehog is our only native spiny mammal.

Not to be confused with pet African pygmy hedgehogs.

COMMON NAME Hedgehog

SCIENTIFIC NAME Erinaceus europaeus

DESCRIPTION 22-25cm long, covered on back and flanks by around 6000 banded spines; face and underside with coarse greyish brown fur.

HABITAT Wide range of habitats, in both urban and rural situations.

Absent from large contier plantations, marshes & moorlands. Suburban and urban gardens increasingly important.

DIET Ground-dwelling invertebrates especially worms, beetles, slugs, caterpillars, millipedes and earwigs. Readily eat meaty cat food or dog food provided by people tool

HABITS Generally solitary, non-territorial, noctumal.

Mobile and wide-ranging. Travel 1-2km a night, with urban range sizes involving many different gardens. Hibernate in winter. Tend to follow linear features when foraging. Rolls into a ball when threatened.

BREEDING Breed between April and September, with peak activity in May and June. Courtship involves lots of snorting, barging from the female and perseverance from the male. Mothers may desert of eat young if disturbed while nesting. Hoglets emerge from end of June onwards, are weaned at around five weeks and independent from then on. Females can attempt two litters in a year, but cannot rear more than one successfully.

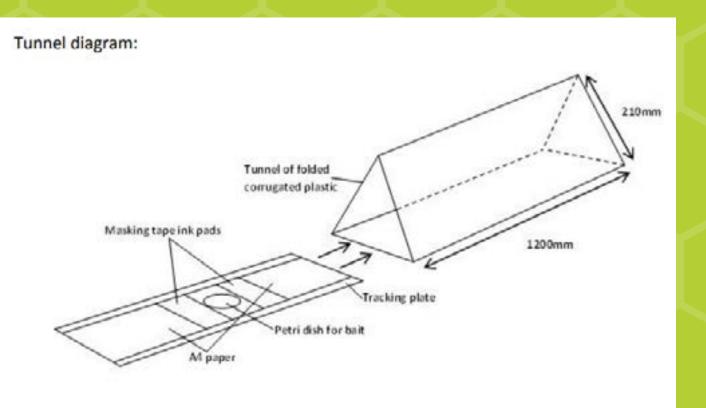
DISTRIBUTION Hedgehogs are found throughout western Europe, including mainland Britain and Ireland, but are absent from some Scottish Islands and have been introduced to others.

CONSERVATION STATUS Although still relatively common and widespread, there is now considerable evidence for a dramatic decline in recent years, with around a third of the national population lost since the millerinium. Declining in both rural and urban habitats, due to a range of factors. The hedgehog is legally protected from trapping or intentional harm, but none of the legislation deals with the drivers of the decline. Hedgehog Street is the only national conservation project and focuses on making gardens hedgehog friendly.









You will need:

- Corrugated plastic
- A4 paper & paper fasteners
- Masking tape
- Paint brush
- Small plastic bowl
- Carbon powder
- Vegetable oil
- Hedgehog food / meaty pet food

How to make:

The best full guidance can be found on the Hedgehog Street website searching how to make a footprint tunnel. There is also a brilliant step-by-step guide on the Gardener's World website. The whole process should take around 30 minutes.

Hedgehog Craft - Collect leaves and join the head template with another piece of A4 paper where you will stick down the collected materials to create hedgehog spikes.



Hedgehog Promise - Once you have decided to take action for hedgehogs in your garden, fill out the hedgehog pledge to remind you - share with us on social media!

I pledge to do something wild for hedgehogs by
 Volunteers
Show us what that would look like:
Share your ideas @TCVCitSci

Make sure you share all your hedgehog photo sightings, crafts and garden activities with us:

- **If** TCV Scotland
- **TCVCitSci**
- @tcvscotland