

Make a loo-roll birdfeeder

Attract feathered visitors with this easy feeding station.

What you need

- Two or more wooden skewers
- A used cardboard kitchen-roll or toilet-roll tube
- A knife or spatula
- Lard or suet
- Birdseed mix
- A plate or tray
- String
- Scissors

How does it work?

Coating a cardboard tube in seed makes a cheap and lightweight version of birdfeeders you might buy in shops. Small birds get energy both from the seeds and from the fat that acts as the glue. The skewers give the birds somewhere to perch, and because the feeder is hollow, it's very light. You can hang it from almost anything. Your local pet shop or garden centre will probably sell several different types of bird seed, so you can tailor your feeder to the birds that you see visiting your outside space. Alternatively, you could make a couple of feeders with different kinds of seed and make a note of which one your visitors most enjoy.

WARNING!
Ask an adult to help you make the holes in the cardboard tube.



1 Push a skewer straight through the cardboard tube to make four holes at one end and two holes at the other.



2 Use the knife or spatula to smear the lard or suet around the outside of the tube. A thick coating without any gaps works best.



3 Pour a layer of birdseed onto a plate or tray. Carefully roll your lard-smeared tube in the mix until it is completely covered in seeds.



4 Stick skewers through the end with four holes to make a X-shape. Tie a loop of string through the top two holes and hang it up.

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