

## Making Your Own Recycled Mason Bee Home

### Materials:

- Empty container (minimum of 5" deep is a good guideline. Soup cans, soda cans and coffee cans are suitable)
- Unbleached parchment paper or construction paper (there are a lot of materials suitable for this, waxy or dyed surfaces should be avoided)
  - Tape
  - 5/16" or 3/8" dowel or #2 pencil
  - Can opener if using a drink can
    - Screwdriver
    - 1 screw



### Step One:

If you're using an empty beverage container, take the top off the can. Shoot for making it as smooth as possible because leaving jagged edges can get your tubes and/or fingers caught.



**Step Two:**

This step will vary a little depending on what you have lying around. A sheet metal screw will be much easier to work with. Push your screw through the bottom of your can just enough to give yourself a hole.



**Step Three:**

Flip your can around and place the screw in the hole you made so that it looks like this.



**Step Four:**

Fasten your container to (ideally) a south-east facing location out of the wind and rain. (Not to the wall in your office).



**Step Five:**

Begin rolling your cells. Cut the paper you're using to roughly the depth of your container. Using your dowel or #2 pencil, roll the paper as tightly as possible and fasten in two places with tape.



**Step Six:**

Load your mounted mason bee house with cells as you roll them.



**Step Seven:**

That's it! Cut all your tubes to equal length. This should be flush with the perforated edge of your container. This will give them just a little more shelter. Results will vary. Mason bees don't necessarily want to avoid nesting in close proximity to other bees, however you may see them skipping every other cell to nest. On the other hand you may very well see all your cells packed.

