Make a speedy bird cake

Make this quick and easy cake to keep the birds happy.

Stuff you need

Good quality bird seed; raisins; peanuts; grated cheese; suet or lard; yoghurt pots; string; mixing bowl; scissors



Important notes

Not suitable for children with nut allergies. Note that bird seed, including peanuts bought for birds, is not suitable for human consumption.

Steps

Carefully make a small hole in the bottom of a yoghurt pot. Thread string through the hole and tie a knot on the inside. Leave enough string so that you can tie the pot to a tree or your bird table.



Allow the lard to warm up to room temperature, but don't melt it. Then cut it up into small pieces and put it in the mixing bowl.



Add the other ingredients to the bowl and mix them together with your finger tips. Keep adding the seed/raisin/cheese mixture and squidging it until the fat holds it all together.



Fill your yoghurt pots with bird cake mixture and put them in the fridge to set for an hour or so.



Hang your speedy bird cakes from trees or your bird table. Watch for greenfinches, tits and possibly even great spotted woodpeckers.



Make a recycled bird feeder

Make a bird feeder from the bottles you would throw away.

Stuff you need

Plastic drinks bottles, yoghurt pots or milk cartons (make sure they're clean), wire or string, bird seed, scissors.









Important notes

This will require adult help with cutting. Be aware of nut allergies.

Steps

Cut a hole in the side large enough to allow a free flow of seeds, but in such a way that it won't all fall out on the ground in the slightest puff of wind, and won't get wet if it rains.



Make a few small holes in the bottom of your feeder to allow any rainwater to drain away.



Hang it with wire, or even strong string from a tree or your washing line.



If your feeder starts to wear out or the food in it goes mouldy, recycle it and make another one! Remember to keep your feeders well stocked, especially in winter. Birds come to rely on them and will go hungry if you forget.



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