

BUILD A FROG HOTEL

*Want a quick and easy way to help the local native frogs in your neighbourhood?
Make a frog hotel!*

Why build a frog hotel?

- Queensland is home to 132 frog species – more than any other state in Australia! However, frog habitat is declining due to the pressures of urbanisation, land clearing and declining waterway health.
- Over 30 species of frogs in Queensland are currently listed as endangered or vulnerable to extinction.
- Frogs need our help! Frog hotels provide shelter and habitat for native frogs, especially tree frogs.

Materials

To make a suitable habitat for native frogs, you will need to provide them with somewhere to shelter and hide, and access to water and food. When collecting your materials, try to use recycled materials rather than buying new ones. Below is a list of materials you will need.



A frog hotel made from old PVC pipes and a recycled garden pot

Material	Purpose
PVC pipes of various widths, cut to different lengths	Provides shelter, hiding place
Garden pot or tub with holes sealed	Holds water to create moist habitat
Small pebbles or gravel	Holds pipes in place and retains water
Large stones or rocks	Shelter, hiding spot
2 Small pots of native plants that like water E.g., common rush, native violet, lomandra.	Shelter, hiding place, habitat for insects
Solar light (optional)	Attracts moths and other insects at night for frogs to feed on



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SECURITY LABEL: OFFICIAL

Steps to build a frog hotel

Step 1. Cut the PVC pipes to different lengths and sand back the edges so they are smooth.

Step 2. Seal up any drain holes in the pot / tub using silicone or add a plastic lining to ensure it will hold water.

Step 3. Position the pipes in your pot or tub. Ask a helper to hold the pipes in place while you scoop in the small pebbles/ gravel till about half full, until the pipes stand upright on their own. Add extra gravel inside each pipe for extra support.

Step 4. Add the potted plants so that the rim of the pots sit just below the top edge of the frog hotel pot/ tub.

Step 5. Fill the rest of the bowl with the gravel/ pebbles and larger stones/ rocks on top.

Step 6. Fill the pipes and pot with water. Use filtered water or rainwater that is free from chlorine or other chemicals. Your frog hotel is now ready for froggy guests to check-in!



Location

Put your frog hotel somewhere in a shady spot, ideally surrounded by plants to keep it cool and moist.

Optional: add a solar light to attract moths at night for frogs to feed on.



Tips

- To keep cane toads out, build a tall frog hotel or keep it at least 60cm off the ground. The tree frogs will be able to climb in, but toads won't.
- Limit the use of pesticides on your garden – frogs have permeable skin and are highly sensitive to poisons. Also, pesticides will reduce the number of insects available for the frogs to eat.
- Keep the water level topped up every few days. Don't overfill the pipes with water as this will enable mosquitos to breed. Remember to use rainwater or dechlorinated water.