

Step-by-step guide to converting a corner garden into a wildlife wonderland

(by [Barbara Elliot](#))

Materials:

- 4 bags of soil.
- Plants: Lavender, African daisy, wildfire bottlebrush (Note: these were the ones I used as I like them, and they were inexpensive).
- Sheet of weed barrier fabric.
- Stones to place on the ground.
- Logs to create raised garden and garden bed kit (e.g. from Aldi).
- Bricks.
- Two birdbaths.



Step 1. Clear the area of debris and dead weeds, and make level. Note: you may need to use a spirit level to get it spot on.



Step 2. Build up the raised bed and lay logs behind it. Fill the bed with bricks to use for drainage then fill with soil (4 bags of soil).



Step 3. Lay a sheet of weed barrier fabric on the ground and put stones on top to hold it in place. Put the birdbath on top of the fabric. Place a stone in the middle of your birdbath if it is deep, this will help any smaller birds that may get into difficulty.



Step 4. Put the second birdbath on the top level, making sure it is level. Put plants on top. Add lots of stones around to build into a rockery (great shelter for lizards).



Step 5. Water every day to help flourish. I water first thing in the morning as there's no shade till very late in the day.

Other tips:

- Instead of, or as well as, a birdbath, you may like to add a frog hotel or frog pond to provide additional habitat for frogs.
- Reptiles such as lizards will happily feed on insects in your garden. They will also eat many of the pests we don't like. The blue tongue lizard will gladly eat all those annoying snails. So, forget the snail bait or you will kill those lovely lizards.

Here are just a few of the many species that visited my garden



Common crow butterfly



Kookaburra



Rainbow Lorikeet



Galah

All images © Barbara Elliot