



BARN OWL NEST-BOX

MATERIALS:

5/8" CDX plywood and 1 5/8" or 2" deck screws for assembly of the main box and perch. Use 1" deck type screws for hinges. Use 3" deck screws or 4" - 6" nails for mounting to buildings, trees or posts.

The top, sides and bottom are all 16" x 24". Entry end is 14 3/4" x 16". Hinged end is 14 1/2" x 16". Entry hole is 4 3/4" - 5" dia. The perch is approx 1 1/2" x 1 1/2" x 24" lg, held in place with bottom screws.

The mounting boards are made from leftover material and can vary in size, but should be 3" to 4" wide x 24" to 30" lg and should be screwed to whichever side works out best once the mounting site is determined. Be sure to cut off the screw points inside the box to prevent injury to owls or banders-etc.

MOUNTING:

Locate out of reach of cats. Mount inside or outside of building - owner's choice. If mounted outside, paint with wood preservative or exterior type stain. Owner may want to paint box later. Don't paint entry hole. If mounted outside, it should be 12 to 20 feet high as safety allows, but no lower than 10'. Locate where there is minimum human activity.

If exposed to wet conditions, protect top to keep water out. Use tarpaper or an extended roof covering. If exposed to the hot afternoon sun, box should be painted white to reflect the heat or add another layer of plywood or insulation on outside. Excessive heat may cause mother owl to abandon the nest. For this reason, try to mount on the N side of building with hole facing E or on the E side with hole facing N.

A heavy wire can be pre-attached with screws as shown to free hands while completing the mounting. Simply hammer a 4"-6" nail up ahead of time. You may add about 1/2" of wood chips or pine needles to prevent eggs from rolling around, but this isn't required unless box is not level. No straw or hay should be used, as it tends to mold.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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