



Action for Swifts



**Product Catalogue
2025-26**



Our Mission

Our mission is to reverse the decline of Swifts.

Swifts in the UK are on the Birds of Conservation Concern (BoCC) Red List and are classified as Endangered on the IUCN Red List assessment of extinction risk for Great Britain. Swifts declined by 58% between 1995 and 2018. They declined by 41% in just 10 years up to 2018, that is over 5% per annum! One of the reasons, perhaps the main reason, is loss of nest sites.

Provision of new housing provides a big opportunity to install Swift bricks for Swifts, and other small cavity-nesting birds. We regard the AfS S Brick as a *universal* nesting brick as it can accommodate Swifts, House Sparrows, Tree Sparrows, Blue Tits, Great Tits, Starlings and even House Martins.

It is our goal to find the optimum compromise between the requirements of the birds and the constraints of the building, making it as easy as possible for the builder on site, as well as resulting in something aesthetically pleasing, and at a low cost.

Through our sales income we fund swift conservation projects and support the Swift Local Network.



Photo ©Simon Stirrup.

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AfS S Brick

AfS S Brick FAQs

Which birds use AfS S Bricks?

A number of bird species nest in cavities provided by AfS S Bricks, a universal integrated nest brick. Some of these bird species are endangered and red-listed in the UK, such as House Sparrow, House Martin, Starling and Swift, and in addition many other popular garden birds will also utilise the spaces.

Why install AfS S Bricks?

Birds and wildlife are good for people! Swifts are iconic summer visitors that brighten our skies with their high-speed aerial antics, but they are also uniquely dependent on the built environment for nest sites. With renovation of older buildings, and modern construction methods for new-build developments, there are fewer traditional nest sites available in the eaves of buildings. Their only hope is for us to provide artificial nest sites, which in new developments are best provided by AfS S Bricks, permanent, mess-free and with no maintenance requirements.

All AfS S Bricks are covered by the British Standard BS 42021:2022. Although designed primarily for Swifts, they can accommodate any small cavity nesting species as well. The converse is not true – nest bricks or boxes designed for these smaller species are not suitable for Swifts. Therefore, a better strategy is to provide a greater number of AfS S Bricks, a universal nest brick.

How many AfS S Bricks should be installed?

New residential development provides a great opportunity to follow best-practice guidance and provide a ratio of at least one AfS S Brick per dwelling, as recommended by RIBA (ref. RIBA 2013), BS 42021:2022 and the Future Homes Hub: Homes for Nature.

For a full list of FAQ's check out:
<https://www.actionforswifts.com/faqs>



AfS S Brick

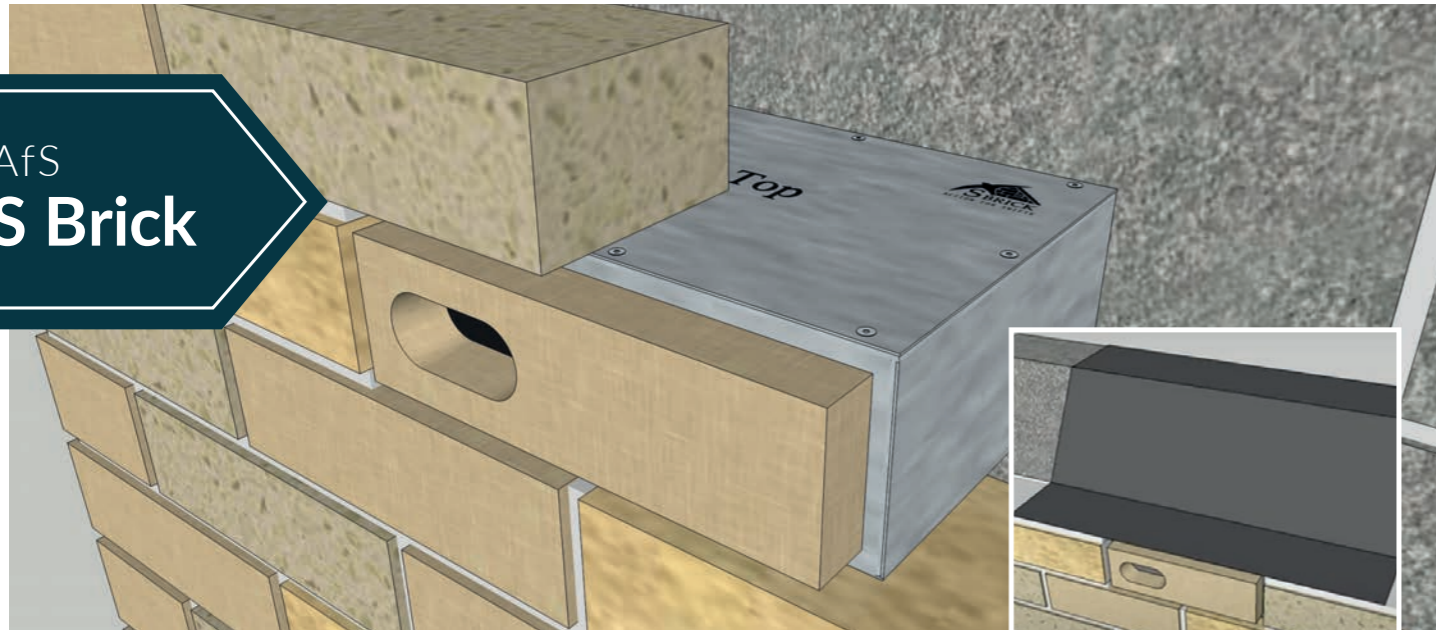


Figure 1.

AfS S Brick Installation

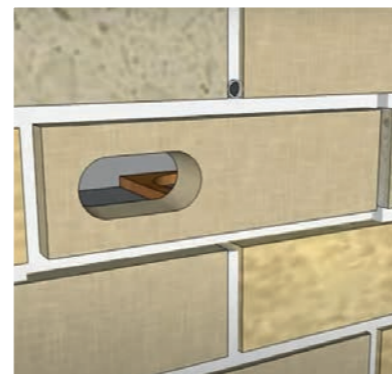
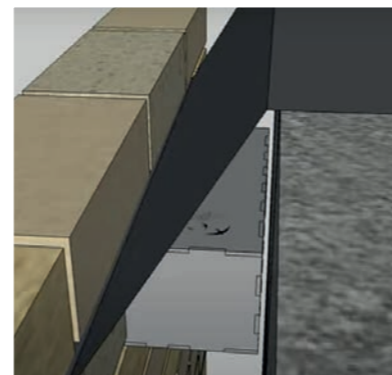
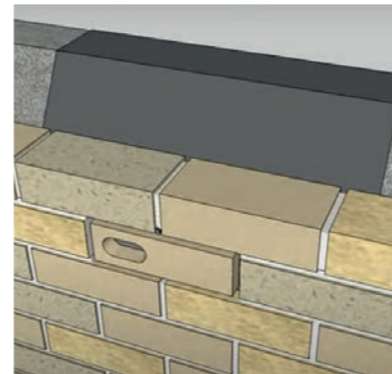
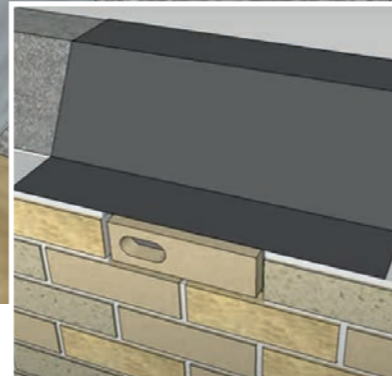
Where should nest bricks be placed?

Swift bricks embedded in the fabric of the dwelling are a universal nest brick - permanent with no maintenance requirements (see Figure 1 above).

Swift bricks should be placed:

- A minimum of 4-5 metres high if possible and close to eaves (where present).
- Grouped together in optimal locations, a gable end or parapet with 3-5 bricks is perfect.
- Avoiding windows and doors to avoid conflict with residents.
- With a clear flyway for the birds to approach and depart.
- As high as practically possible on multi-storey buildings.

More guidance can be found in BS 42021 and we offer free pro-bono advice on any project by emailing actionforswifts@gmail.com

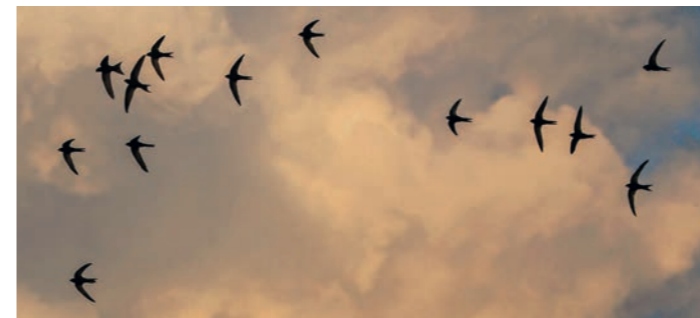


AfS S Brick Range

An integral nest brick designed to blend perfectly with your chosen finish, providing a secure nesting chamber for the lifetime of the building.

Balancing the needs of the bird with the constraints of the building, will fit into 50mm, 100mm or larger cavity walling and is suitable for brick or timber frame constructions.

A premier solution for integral swift boxes the AfS S Brick provides a home for Swifts and other cavity nesting birds, without compromising the integrity or appearance of the building.



Why choose the S Brick?

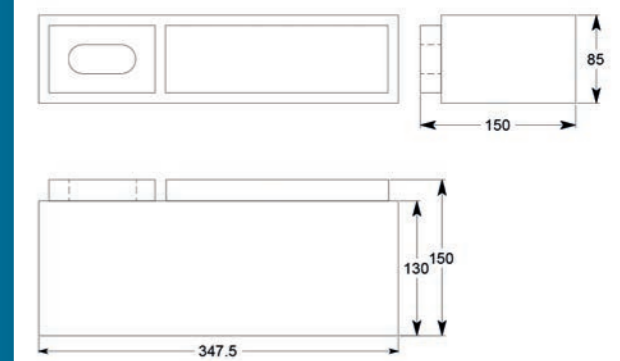
- 100% incombustible.
- Compliant with BS42021.
- Easy installation.
- Standard or custom brick or render facing.
- Retrofit or newbuild.
- For solid, 50mm or 100mm and wider cavity walls.
- For Swifts and small cavity nesting birds.

The AfS S Brick comprises

- Galvanised steel nest chamber.
- Cement fibreboard floor.
- Nest form.
- Brick/stone finish or expanded metal mesh for rendered facing.
- All provide ample space for nesting birds.
- Brick or stone facings can be closely matched or we can use your own bricks.

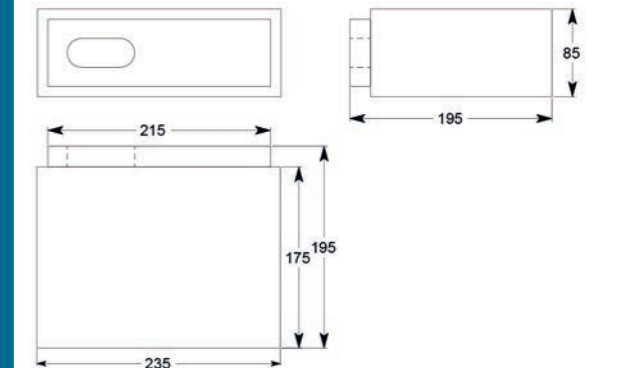
AfS S Brick 130mm

Weight including brick slip 2.2kg



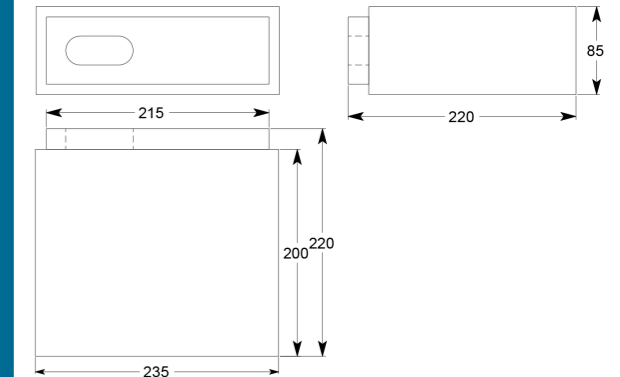
AfS S Brick 175mm

Weight including brick slip 1.8kg



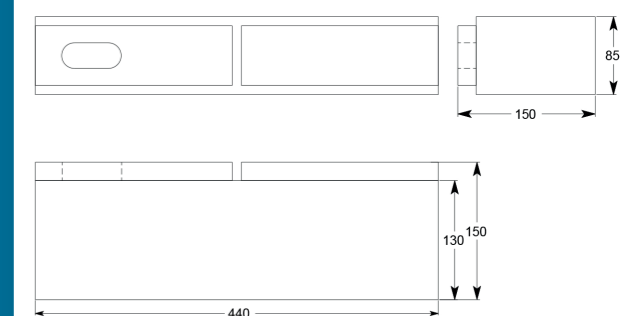
AfS S Brick 200mm

Weight including brick slip 1.9kg



AfS S Brick 440mm

Weight including brick slip 2.6kg



AfS S Brick



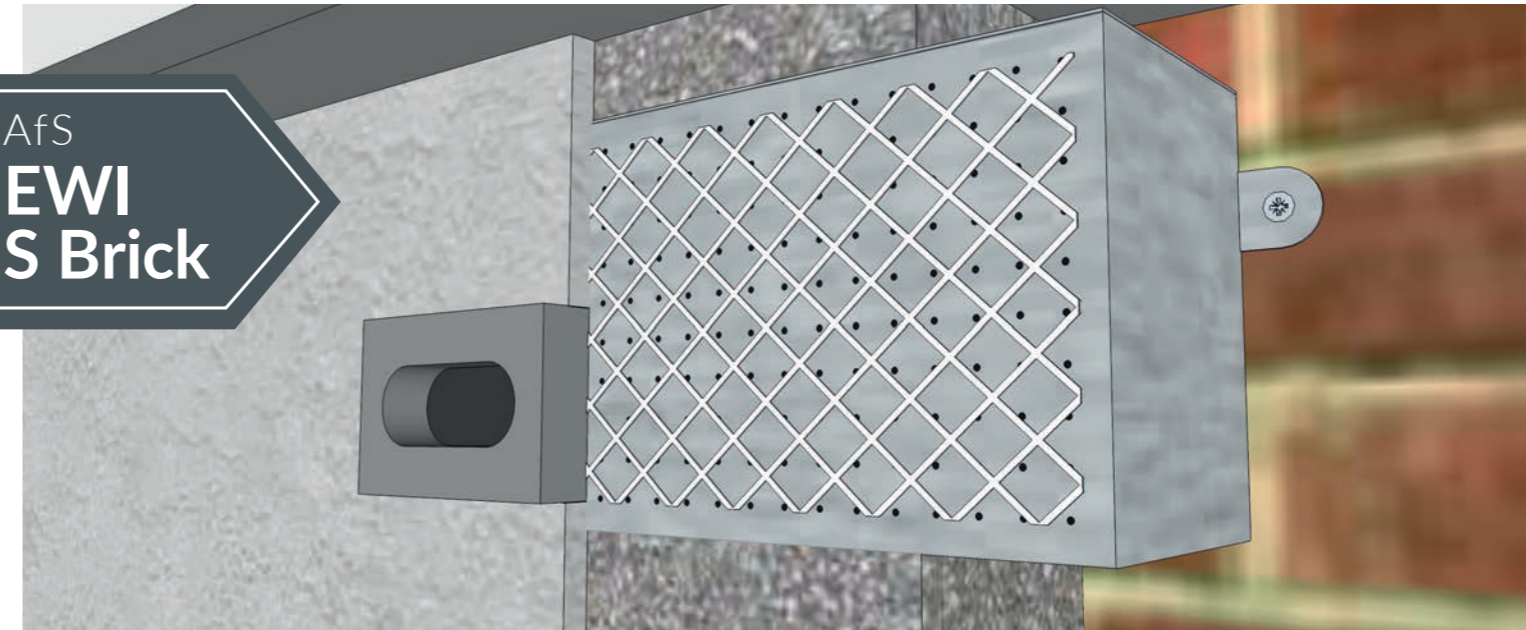
AfS S Brick Bespoke Solutions

In situations where you do not have a cavity wall, talk to us about the options available.

We can provide a brick slip to match your wall and depending on the circumstances, birds can either nest in the space left by removing stones/bricks, or we can provide a bespoke solution for them to nest in behind the wall.



AfS EWI S Brick



AfS EWI S Brick

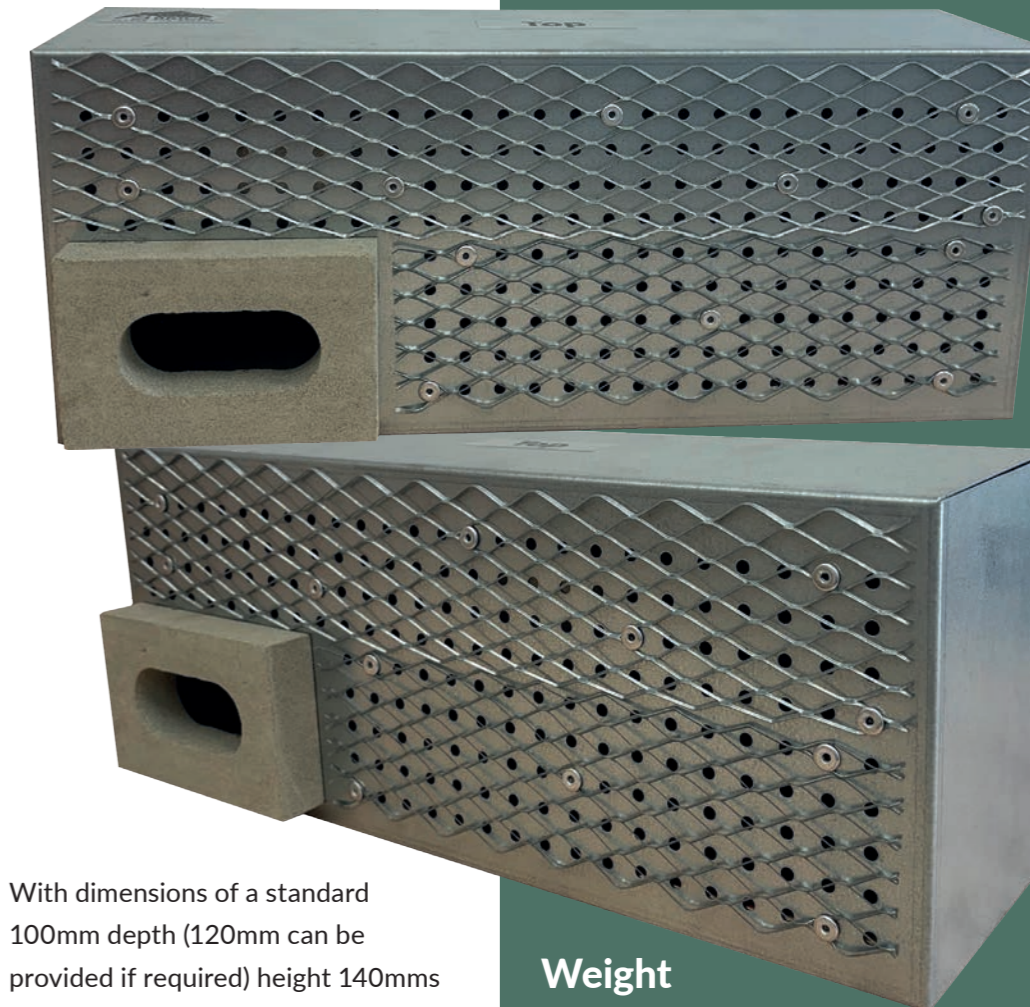
A simple, low cost, nesting solution for use in retrofit thermal upgrade of an existing property or where EWI is incorporated into a new build.

External Wall Insulation (EWI) is the application of an insulation layer to the outside wall of a building in order to improve the building's energy efficiency.

By minimising heat loss in cold weather and heat gain in warm weather, EWI creates a more comfortable living environment and reduces heating costs.

The insulant is typically expanded polystyrene or mineral fibre of varying thickness, typically finished with a render, brick / stone effect finish or a cladding. The AfS EWI S Brick box sits within this layer, with an entrance hole in sandstone which can be rendered around and painted the same colour as the finish.

With dimensions of a standard 100mm depth (120mm can be provided if required) height 140mms and length of 347mm, the EWI S Brick is designed to be fitted to the wall behind with the metal fixings either side and then be surrounded by insulant and finally rendered in place.



Weight
2.1kg

Dimensions:
LENGTH 347mm
HEIGHT 140mm
DEPTH 100mm

AfS Bat Brick



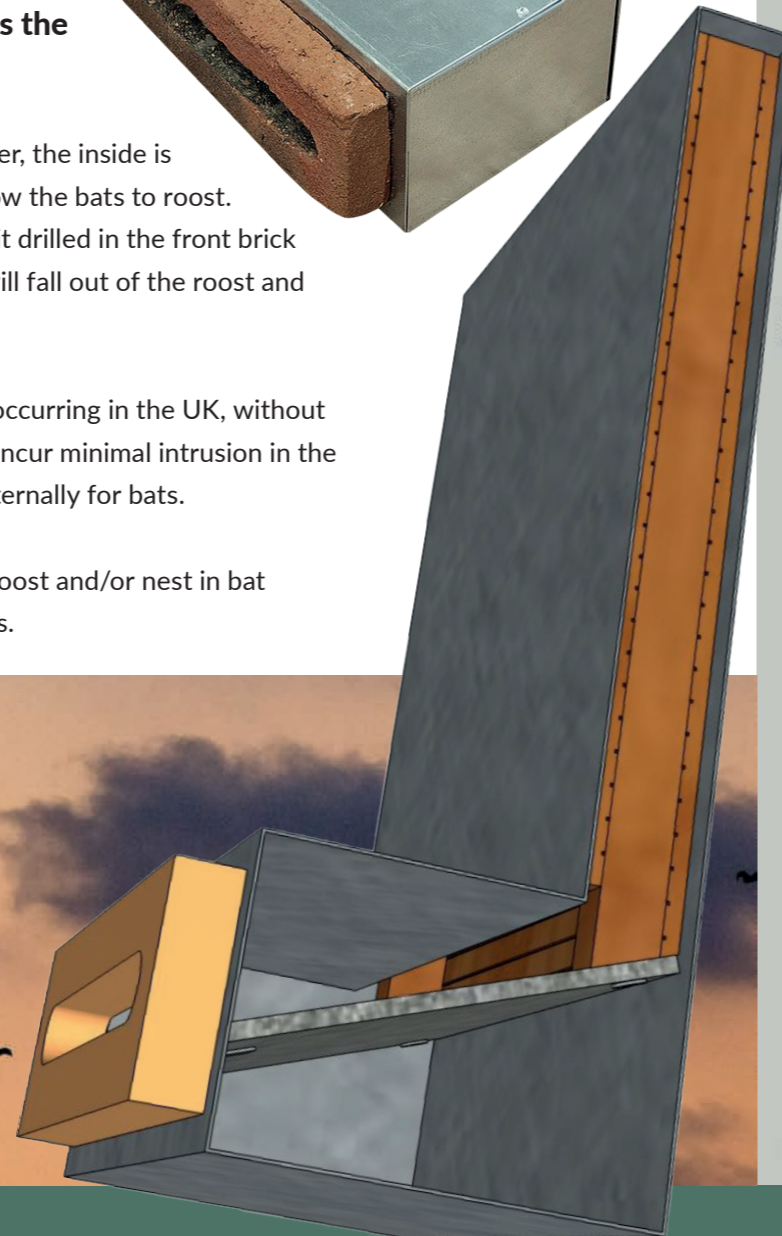
AfS Bat Brick

The AfS Bat Brick is the result of many requests for an affordable, lighter weight, integral bat-brick which has the capacity to be made in matching facing bricks.

Constructed of thin galvanised steel and strongly riveted together, the inside is made of bat friendly, untreated boards which are grooved to allow the bats to roost. Bats access the cozy inner chamber by means of the entrance slit drilled in the front brick and then climb up a fibre-board (waterproof) ramp. Droppings will fall out of the roost and down the ramp, keeping the inner space clean.

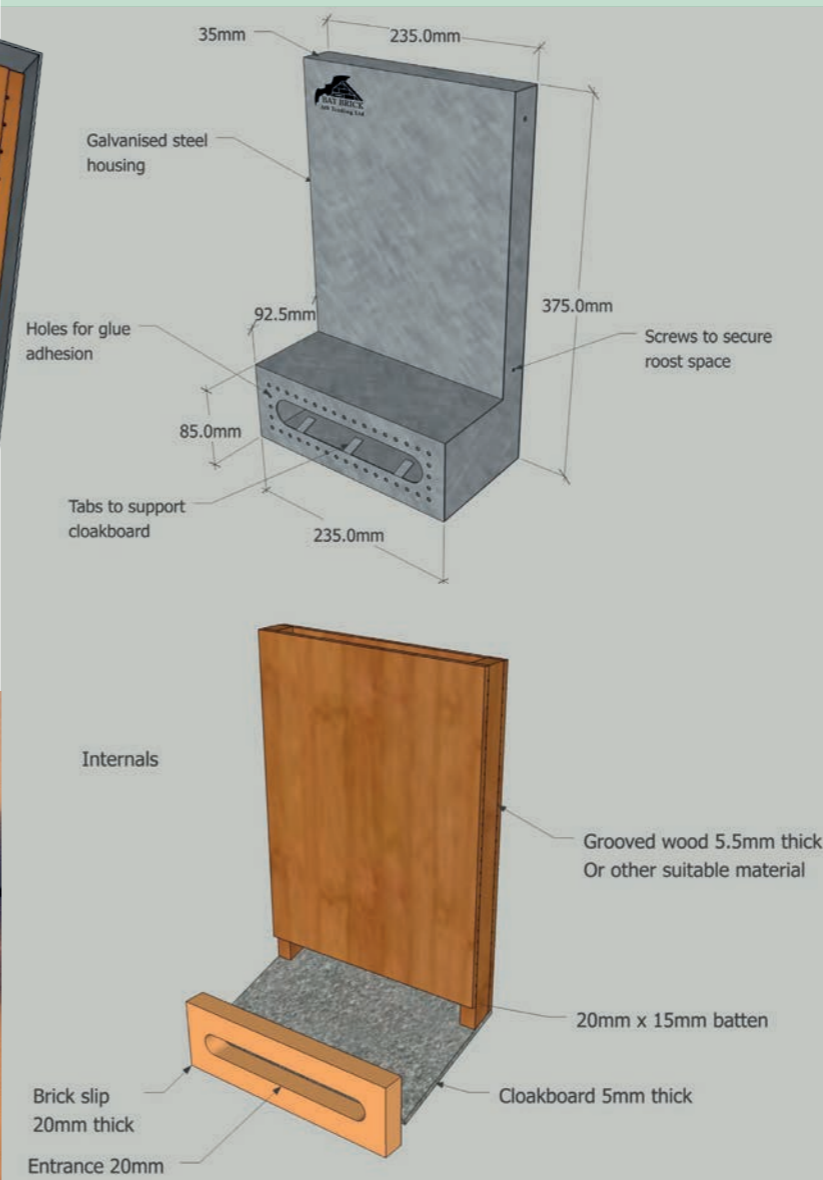
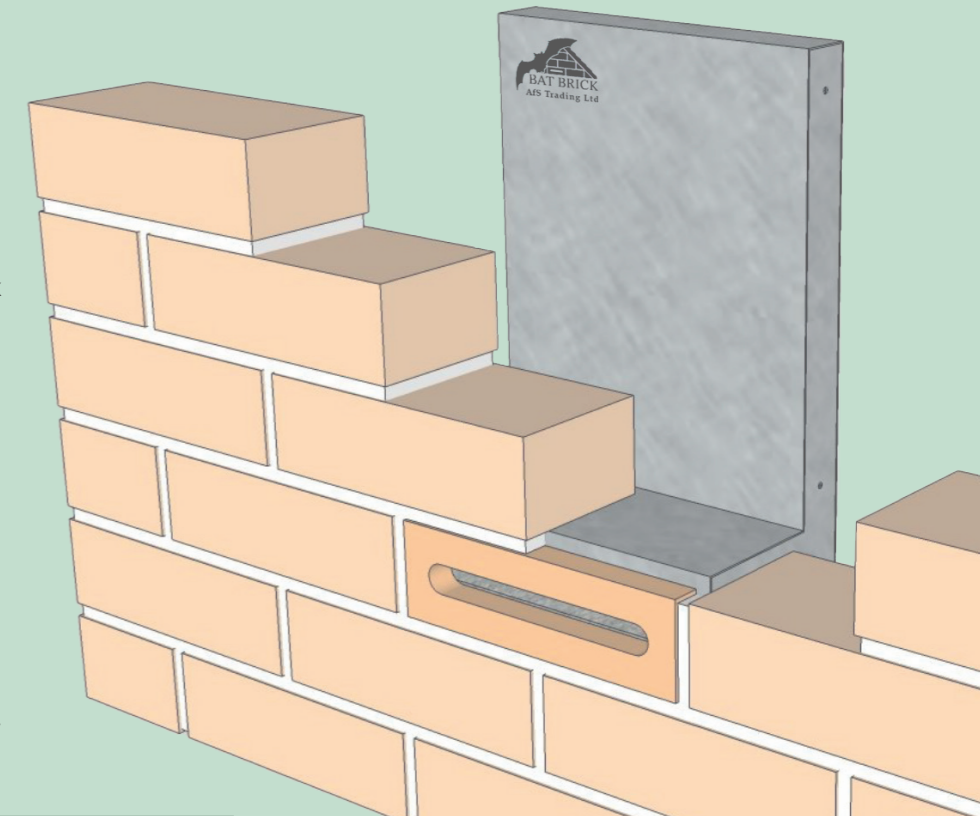
The AfS Bat Brick provides a home for a number of bat species occurring in the UK, without compromising the integrity or appearance of the building. They incur minimal intrusion in the wall while at the same time providing adequate crevice space internally for bats.

Out of the 18 species of bats living in the UK, 12 are known to roost and/or nest in bat boxes, including Pipistrelle, Natterers and Brown long-eared bats.



AfS Bat Brick Features

- Bat-friendly materials providing a cosy roosting chamber.
- Fireproof.
- Easy to install.
- Handmade with standard or custom brick facings to match the building.
- Galvanised steel chamber.
- Cement fibreboard access ramp.
- Grooved wooden interior walls.
- Fireproof sealant.
- Brick facing to match exterior finish.
- Bat Bricks are available in one size, which will work in any cavity wall.
- All provide ample space for roosting bats.



AfS Bat Brick Installation

The bottom of the AfS Bat-Brick is placed on the course of bricks where the entrance is desired and the back extends UPWARDS into the cavity. Because of the dimensions it will fit easily into a 50mm or larger cavity leaving space to avoid cold bridging.

The base section is held in place with the brick course above and the facing brick is pointed in to blend seamlessly with the wall

- It is best installed high in a gable, under eaves or in a parapet wall on a south or south-east facing wall.
- No less than 4 metres above ground.
- Where there is space allow 1 metre spacing, but can be closer if required.
- A clear flyway in front is preferred.

A lintel is not required. The Bat Brick is secured by pointing with cement mortar.

Weight 2.1kg

AfS Bee Brick

AfS Solitary Bee Brick

In the UK there are over 200 species of solitary bee, in fact they comprise 90% of our native bees. They are incredibly important to our ecosystems as pollinators, but pesticide use and loss of habitat has put them at threat.

They are attracted to our gardens because of the nectar bearing flowers and plants. These AfS Bee Bricks provide nesting holes for the female to lay her eggs, creating individual chambers for each one with a store of pollen.

Solitary bees are largely harmless and are safe to encourage into our gardens, with a very mild sting that they rarely use.

- The AfS Bee Brick should be positioned in a warm sunny spot, south facing, with no vegetation in front of the holes, ideally in a garage or garden wall.

- Ideally placed at least 1 metre from the ground they can be as high as you want to locate them.
- The AfS bee brick has drilled tunnels, where bees will lay their eggs, sealing the entrance with mud or chewed up vegetation. Offspring emerge in the spring and begin the process of nesting again.
- The AfS Bee Brick provides habitat for the many species of bee in the UK which nest in cavities.

Weight 2.9kg
Dimensions 215mm x 105mm x 65mm

AfS Soffit Boxes

AfS Soffit Boxes

Where installation of integral bricks is not possible, Soffit Boxes provide secure nesting spaces within the soffits of existing or new build properties.

Soffits are the underside of the eaves of a building and cover the ends of the roof rafters. They are perpendicular to the walls and are covered by fascias which are parallel to the wall. Traditionally they are made of uPVC and have a hollow interior.

Soffit boxes are designed to sit snugly within this space on top of the soffit and behind the fascia, providing a secure nesting space which is out of sight and does not affect the aesthetics of the building.

The Soffit Box provides a home for Swifts and other cavity nesting birds, without compromising the integrity or appearance of the building.

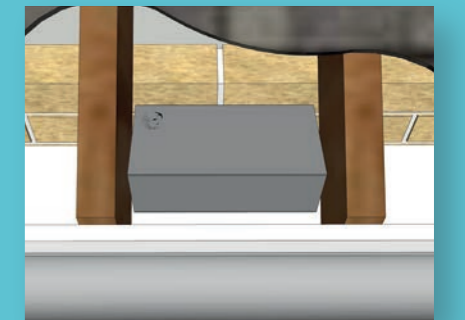
It is designed to be accessed by a small hole in the soffit which leads directly into the nesting chamber. We provide a template to drill the right size hole in the correct place in your soffit as part of the product.

- Two options: 100% lightweight palight or uPVC for thermal stability and durability.
- Compliant with BS42021.
- Easy installation.
- Retrofit or new build.
- For Swifts and small cavity nesting birds.

The Soffit Box comprises

- Nest form.
- Nesting chamber dimensions: 450cms² floor area, 10cm height.
- Template for cutting out hole in soffit board.
- Easy entrance and exit for birds.

Colour: Standard Grey Palight (*white uPVC available on request*).
Dimensions: LENGTH 300mm. DEPTH 150mm. HEIGHT 100mm.
Nest Form: 80mm diameter.
Weight: 200g.

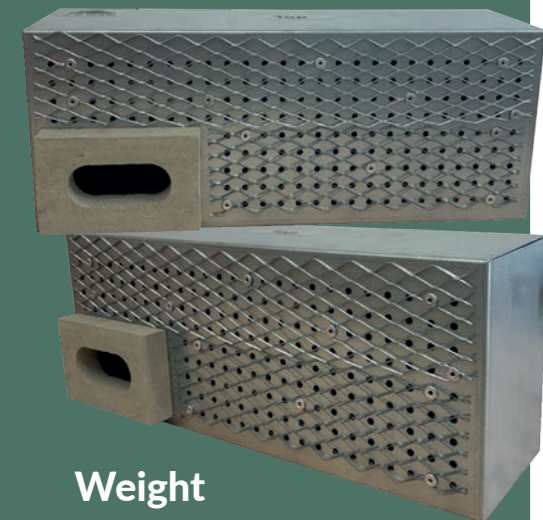


AfS EWI Products



External Wall Insulation is applied to the outside wall.

AfS EWI S Brick



Weight
2.1kg

Dimensions:

LENGTH 347mm
HEIGHT 170mm
DEPTH 100mm



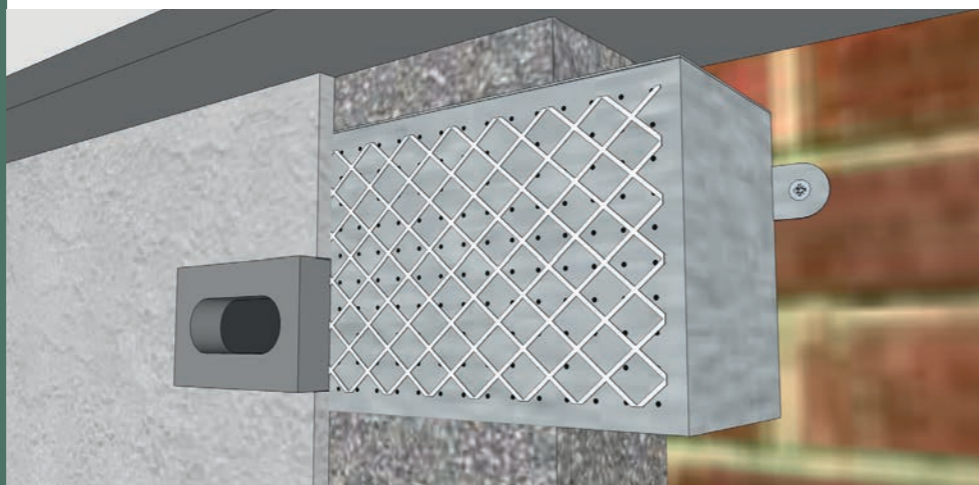
External Wall Insulation (EWI) Products

External Wall Insulation (EWI) is the application of an insulation layer to the outside wall of a building in order to improve the building's energy efficiency.

By minimising heat loss in cold weather and heat gain in warm weather, EWI creates a more comfortable living environment and reduces heating costs. The insulant is typically expanded polystyrene or mineral fibre of varying thickness, typically finished with a render, brick / stone effect finish or a cladding.

AfS have two products designed to sit within EWI and provide comfortable nesting spaces for swifts and other small birds.

With dimensions of a standard 100mm depth (120mm can be provided if required), height 140mm and length of 347mm, the **EWI S Brick** is designed to be fitted to the wall behind with the metal fixings either side and then be surrounded by insulant and finally rendered in place.



AfS EWI Nest Box

Our second EWI product is the uPVC EWI box. The EWI Nest Box simply sits within the insulated layer, with an unobtrusive entrance clear of the finish.

The final surface, which provides both the aesthetic and weatherproofing functions of the wall, is usually a coloured render but may be a brick effect or other specialist finish. Boxes can be either rendered in or painted to match this finish.

The EWI Nest Box provides a home for Swifts and other cavity nesting birds, without compromising the integrity or appearance of external insulation.

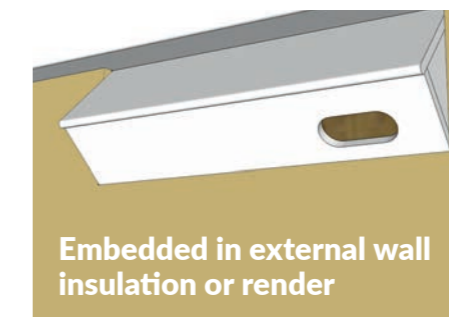


The AfS EWI Nest Box

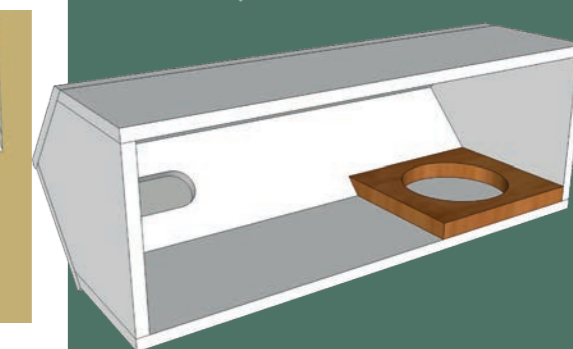
- 100% uPVC chamber.
- Nest form.
- Nesting chamber with a floor area of 332cm² and height of 11cms.
- Easy entrance and exit for birds.
- Compliant with BS 42021:2022.



On brickwork tucked tight under eaves



Embedded in external wall insulation or render



The AfS EWI box is made from white uPVC and comes in one standard size.

The EWI Box is designed for quick, easy installation:

- Higher is better, no less than 4 metres above ground (no maximum height)
- If space allows, spread them out - 1 metre spacing but can be closer
- A clear flyway in front
- Embedded into the wall insulation, no additional fixing is required.

This box also works well tucked up under eaves. It should not be placed lower down on the wall as the flat roof can provide a perch for predatory birds!

Weight
400g

Dimensions:

LENGTH 350mm
HEIGHT 126mm
DEPTH 150mm

AfS Model 30



AfS Model 30 External Box

A traditional style nesting box for small cavity nesting birds, the Model 30 can be fixed on walls and gables of buildings.

It comes flat packed, with simple assembly instructions and can be easily fitted to the wall through the back wall using masonry screws and plugs.

With a choice of wholly uPVC in white, or a combination of uPVC and treated ply front and base, the Model 30 is a best seller and a well-occupied nest box.

Weight
400g

Dimensions:
LENGTH 350mm
HEIGHT 126mm
DEPTH 150mm



AfS Model 30 installation

- A clear flyway in front is required for access
- Higher is better, no less than 4 metres above ground
- Multiple boxes can be placed along a wall, 0.5m - 1m apart

The AfS Model 30 is secured by fixing through the back of the box BEFORE securing the lid.

There are no pre-drilled holes for this as each wall will require a bespoke fitting, but drilling through the uPVC to fix is straightforward.

AfS Bat Back Model 30

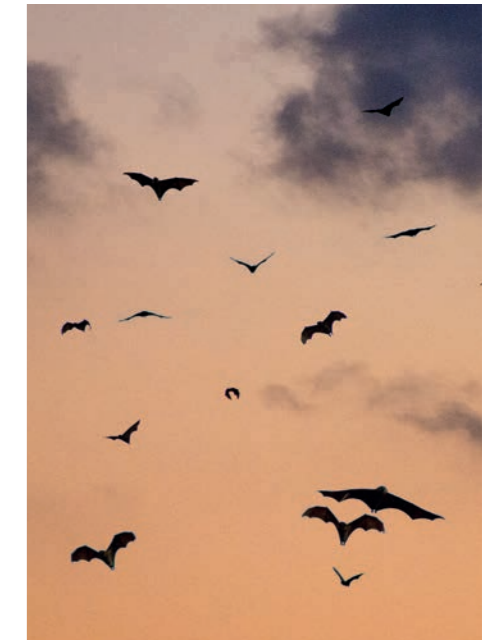


AfS Bat Back Model 30

With the steady popularity of the Model 30, we have had feedback over the last three years that often bats will roost behind these externally mounted swift boxes.

As an option for people looking to provide a roost for bats as well as a popular style home for swifts, we are pleased to offer this new take on an old favourite. Available in either wholly uPVC (apart from the access ramp at the back) or a combination of uPVC and plywood, which can be finished in black or woodstain

A standard Model 30 swift box, providing a spacious swift nest cavity at the front chamber, but with an additional 17mm gap and landing ramp at the back to allow bats to roost behind the box.



Weight
uPVC
2.4kg

Weight
Plywood Front
2.6kg

Dimensions:
LENGTH 320mm
HEIGHT 190mm
DEPTH 160mm

AfS
Multi Chamber
Model 30



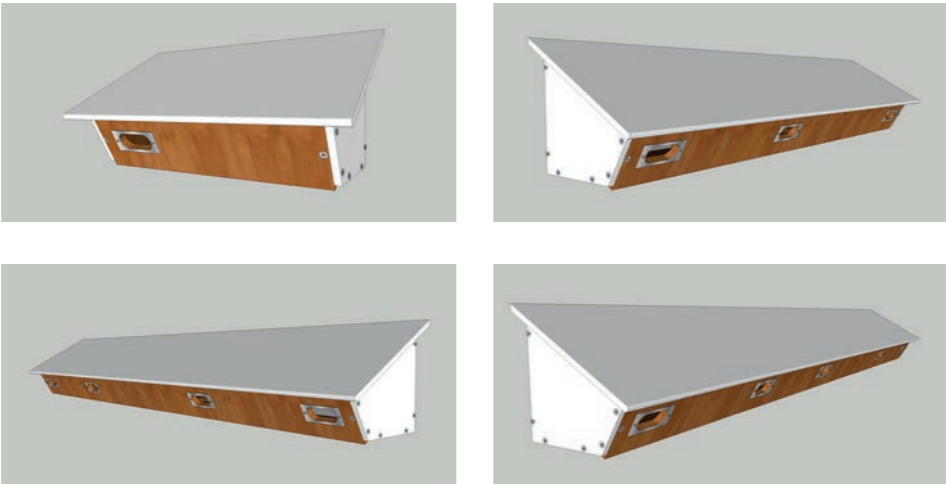
AfS Multi Chamber
Model 30

Due to the popularity of the Model 30, we also supply this nesting box as a multi chamber box with up to 6 chambers. Each chamber is separated by wooden walls inside and contains a cosy nest form.

This comes in a choice of natural woodstain, grey or black finish on the front as standard but we can match any colour you require. Metal entrance plates are included to prevent predation and box damage by woodpeckers, other birds or squirrels.

With all our multi chamber boxes there is an option to include a bat back. Refer to the table for dimensions, weights and cost per unit.

Please note that 5 & 6 chamber styles are only available for collection in person or by special arrangement due to fragility when shipping.



Number of Chambers	Dimensions (mm)	Weight	Cost Excluding VAT	Cost with Bat Back Excluding VAT
2	776 x 250 x 190	3.2kg	£59	£67
3	1128 x 250 x 190	4.9kg	£88	£104
4	1480 x 250 x 190	6.5kg	£115	£135
5	1832 x 250 x 190	7.2kg	£145	£170
6	2184 x 250 x 190	8.7kg	£175	£205

5 Chamber Model 30 with Bat Back.



AfS
Model
31

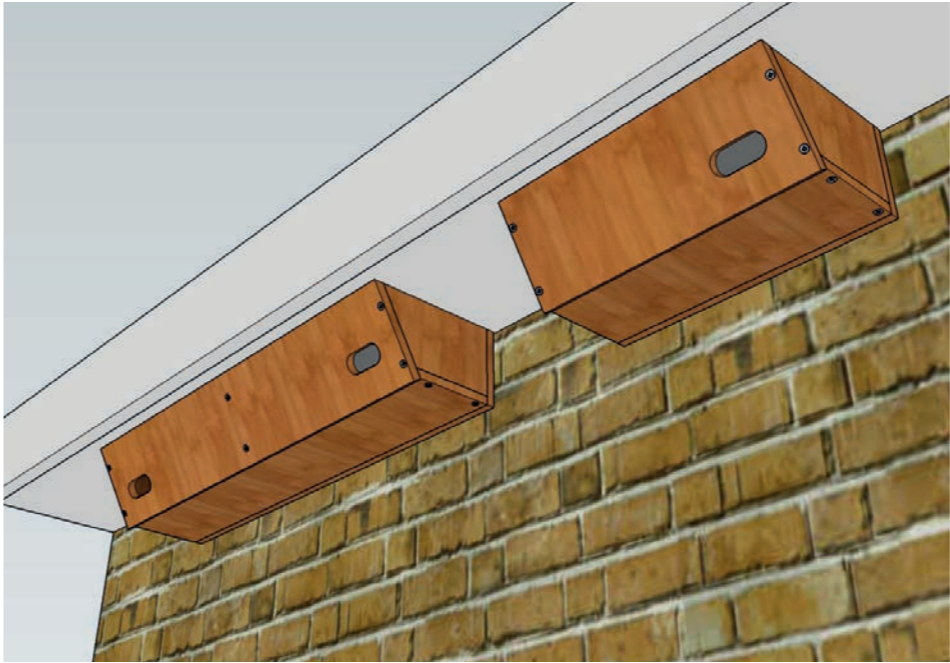


AfS Model 31

The Model 31 is designed to fit snugly underneath flat horizontal eaves and therefore does not come with a roof.

Requiring eaves with a depth of at least 21cm (narrower eaves may be accommodated on request), the Model 31 is a neat solution for swifts and is protected from sun, wind and rain in a great location for the birds.

It is constructed of treated ply, contains a nest form and has a metal entrance plate to prevent degradation and predation through the entrance. Standard entrance of 65mm x 28mm.



**Dimensions
Single Version:**
WIDTH 370mm
HEIGHT 112mm
DEPTH 205mm

Weight
1.9kg

AfS Polymer Box



AfS Polymer Box

This a robust and lightweight, water-proof and weather-proof nest place for Swifts and other small cavity nesting species.

Easy to affix to any wall, it contains a moulded nest form and thermal insulation in the roof to prevent over-heating. Whilst this is insulated, we would still advise avoiding south-facing locations. Made from fully-recyclable and durable polymer and weighing less than 1.5kg it is an excellent environmental choice to provide swifts with a home for many years to come.

AfS Polymer Boxes are easy to secure to the wall with the moulded screw holes on the outside. Please note we do not supply wall fixings.

The AfS Polymer is available in 3 colour options, Terracotta, Light Mottle or Sandstone.



Weight
1.4kg

Dimensions:
LENGTH 400mm
HEIGHT 200mm
WIDTH 200mm

AfS Apex Boxes



AfS Apex Boxes

An option for installing multiple nest boxes on a gable end wall can be a bespoke Apex Box.

This provides 3, 6, or 10 nesting boxes in a sleek, fitted box which matches your gable measurements.

All we need is the gable angles and we can create a bespoke triangle nesting box for you, each chamber inside is separated and contains a nest form, whilst the outside finish can be suited to the location. These are available in a combination of plywood with a roof of uPVC for longevity and can provide a great solution where multiple nests are wanted, but not necessarily multiple boxes.



Dimensions and weight are dependent on the design. Prices are £105 plus VAT for a 3-chamber and £205 plus VAT for a 6-chamber. For any larger designs we will provide a quote on getting the details.

Church Towers & Belfries

Nest boxes in church belfries have proved to be very successful, resulting in some substantial new colonies.

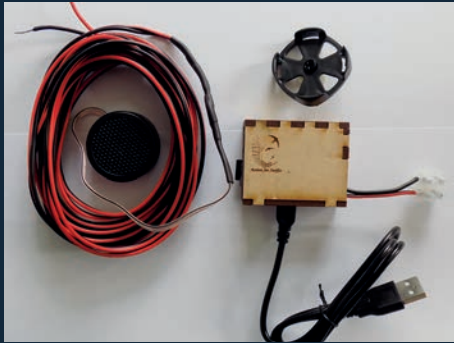
There are about 16,000 churches and chapels in England, many with a suitable belfry. These sites provide a significant opportunity to make a contribution to Swift conservation. The advantages of church belfries are that they are high, out of the way, and Swifts seem to like nesting there.

A number of options are available and we can provide bespoke solutions for your tower. To get started, the guidelines are here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NBuzduDlino1dN_Cp7BsmNTh_Jd7ebik/view Alternatively give us a call to discuss your project.

Dimensions are bespoke to your church and prices start from just £15 per nest chamber depending on the design.



Other Products



Swift Callers

Swift callers are specially designed devices used to attract swifts to new nesting sites by playing recorded swift calls.

These devices are a crucial tool in swift conservation efforts, as they help encourage swifts to settle in areas equipped with nest boxes or other suitable habitats. By mimicking the sounds of established colonies, swift callers create an inviting atmosphere, increasing the likelihood of swifts adopting the area for nesting.

Whether installed in residential spaces, church belfries, or custom-designed apex boxes, these devices can significantly enhance the success of swift conservation projects.

Our easy-to-use unit comes with a small speaker, a SD card with a range of swift calls, a USB cable connection for power and 5m of cable.



Swift mobiles/Model Swifts

Swift mobiles are lightweight, lifesize models designed to mimic the graceful form of swifts in flight.

These models easily pop out and clip together, making them ideal for decorative use or as an educational tool to raise awareness about swift conservation.

Perfect for classrooms, nature centres, or even homes, the assembled mobiles can be suspended to create a dynamic and striking display. Their simplicity and versatility make them a great addition to both conservation projects and swift-themed decor.



I am a Swift, I am in Trouble Booklet

A charming and informative A6 illustrated booklet on the history, lifestyle and plight of our swifts. Useful for events, education purposes and talks.



Leaflets and Swift Information

We offer a comprehensive range of informative leaflets and fliers designed to provide in-depth details on swift conservation and our range of products. These materials are perfect for raising awareness & complementing events and presentations.

Full product information is also available and can be supplied upon request, as can demonstration samples of any of our products.

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Action for Swifts Trading Limited is a company registered in England and Wales with company number 13945985.

