



## Sheffield Swift Network

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 [sheffieldswiftnetwork.org](http://sheffieldswiftnetwork.org)

Sheffield Swift Network is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Number 1212588.

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# Guide to Checking Swift Bricks and Nest Boxes

Thank you for monitoring your swift bricks and nest boxes. Your records help support the case for including artificial nests in planning and new developments across the city.

We only upload records of **occupied nests** to [RSPB Swift Mapper](#). No personal data is shared. [Customer Privacy Notice](#)

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## This Guide Helps you:

- Check whether your swift brick or box is being used.
  - Keep simple records from year to year.
  - Spot patterns and share important information with us.
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## When to survey

- Once a month from mid-May to mid-August.
  - Best time: evenings, roughly 7.30–9.30pm, or about an hour before dusk.
  - Best conditions: dry, still weather.
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## What To Look For

[Here is a swift ID video.](#)

- A swift clinging to a particular nest entrance, as this shows interest in a potential nest.
- Swifts not coming straight back out.
- Begging calls or wing exercises from inside the nest. [See example here](#)
- Repeated adult visits during the day – this is adults returning with food (swollen throats) for chicks.



## Record Occupancy Levels as follows:

- **Unused:** no evidence of swift activity.
  - **Prospecting:** swifts visit the site, but there is no confirmed entry.
  - **Occupied:** clear entry or other direct evidence.
  - **Breeding** evidence: nest building, eggs, chicks, or feeding visits.
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## Submitting records

- Write your observations on the record sheet
  - Email completed sheet(s) to [Sheffield Swift Network](#) at the end of the season (mid September)
  - Include as much detail as you can.
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## Our Social Media

If you're happy to share, we'd love photos or short videos for social media. We won't identify you or your home, and your contributions help encourage more swift nesting provision across the city. [Email them to us](#) or send them on WhatsApp to **07850 799891**.

Enjoy your time watching swifts - and thank you for supporting **Sheffield Swift Network**.



Sheffield Swift Network

# Artificial Nest Record Sheet

Date:

Observers name & email address:  
(This information is not shared) [See Privacy Notice](#)

Start Time	
End Time	
Weather:	
When artificial nests were installed	
Nest location e.g. left gable	

Address of artificial nest(s):
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<b>Nest Type</b> Swift Brick / Box / Other	<b>Unique Nest ID</b> Use same unique ID for each nesting chamber every year	<b>Species</b> Swift /Sparrow/ other	<b>Caller Playing</b> Yes / No	<b>Notes</b> Occupancy level: <b>Unused / Prospecting / Occupied / Breeding</b>
<i>Brick</i>	<i>Brick A (top left)</i>	<i>Swift</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Occupied.</i> <i>Single Swift seen entering at 19.10 not seen leaving</i>