



# Kestrel Nest boxes



## Why help kestrels?

- Kestrels are listed as 'amber' UK conservation status which means that their breeding population is in decline, and they have declined significantly across Devon. A nestbox will help them have a safe place to rear their young.



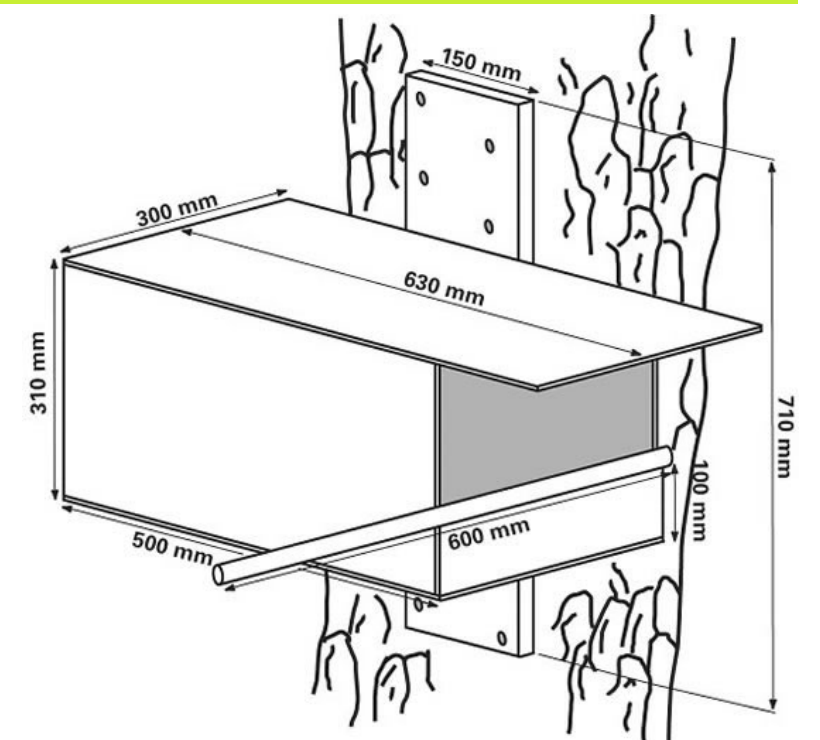
## Where to place the boxes?

- The nestboxes should be fixed to trees away from dense woodland close to rough grassland and with good visibility. Mature hedgerow trees are an ideal site or they can be fixed to poles or the exterior of barns in undisturbed locations.
- They should be 15-20 feet above the ground, with the opening pointing away from the prevailing weather.



## Make your own nestbox

- The RSPB has an easy to follow nestbox plan that can be made out of durable timber (larch, cedar, oak) or 18mm exterior grade plywood which will need to be varnished/treated with a non-toxic timber sealant and on the exterior (only), especially on the edges and corners to make it weatherproof.



## 20 free nestbox giveaway

- As mentioned on our social media we will have 20 free volunteer-made nestboxes to give to randomly selected farmers/landowners in the North Devon Biosphere (Map) who have either made a Pledge to put up a box directly on our website or who have emailed us with their intention to do so at [biosphere-mailbox@devon.gov.uk](mailto:biosphere-mailbox@devon.gov.uk) (before 20th December) and agreed to have their pledge put on the web site.
- A list of winners will be distributed in the new year, when the free boxes will be available.

This kestrel nest box challenge has been made possible by the North Devon Biosphere Pledge for Nature project. Please go to our website: [www.biosphere.org.uk/pledgefornature](http://www.biosphere.org.uk/pledgefornature) to let us know what you are doing for nature!

**Thanks for your help!**