



Bristol Swifts

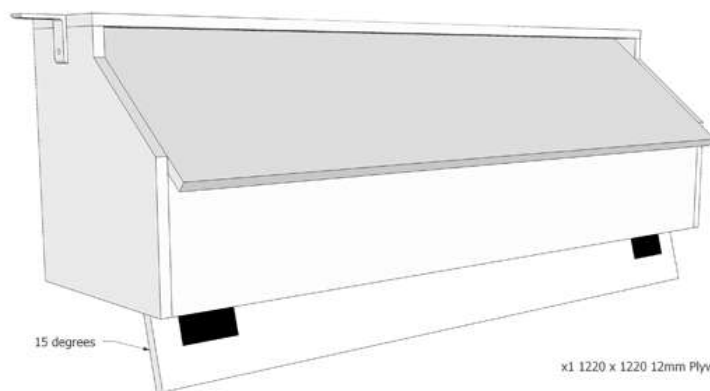
How to make Mark Glanville's twin compartment Swift nest box

A single sheet of 12mm exterior hardwood ply 2440mm x 1220mm is big enough to make two of these twin compartment boxes. You'll also need per box- 5 or 6 x 50mm brackets, a handful of 25mm galvanised nails, 2 x 25mm screws and some adhesive. I use the adhesive on each section before I nail them together to give it more strength, all except the top section where I use screws so I can gain access - all of which you can buy for around £50, working out at about £25 per twin box. Paint or stain the nest box to suit your location. Most importantly, take care when putting it up and don't take any risks on a ladder - please read **Swift Conservation** website's '[Fitting nest box safety guidelines](#)'



The square side access panels shown in the above photos aren't essential. I only made them in case I needed to work on the internal cameras during the breeding season, as this wouldn't disturb the Swifts too much. I have rarely had to use them yet though!

Fellow Swift enthusiast Michael Osborne has kindly created the following scale diagrams below based on my original twin box design.



NOTE: x2 brackets to fit box to soffit

x4 brackets to fasten angled landing strip to bottom panel

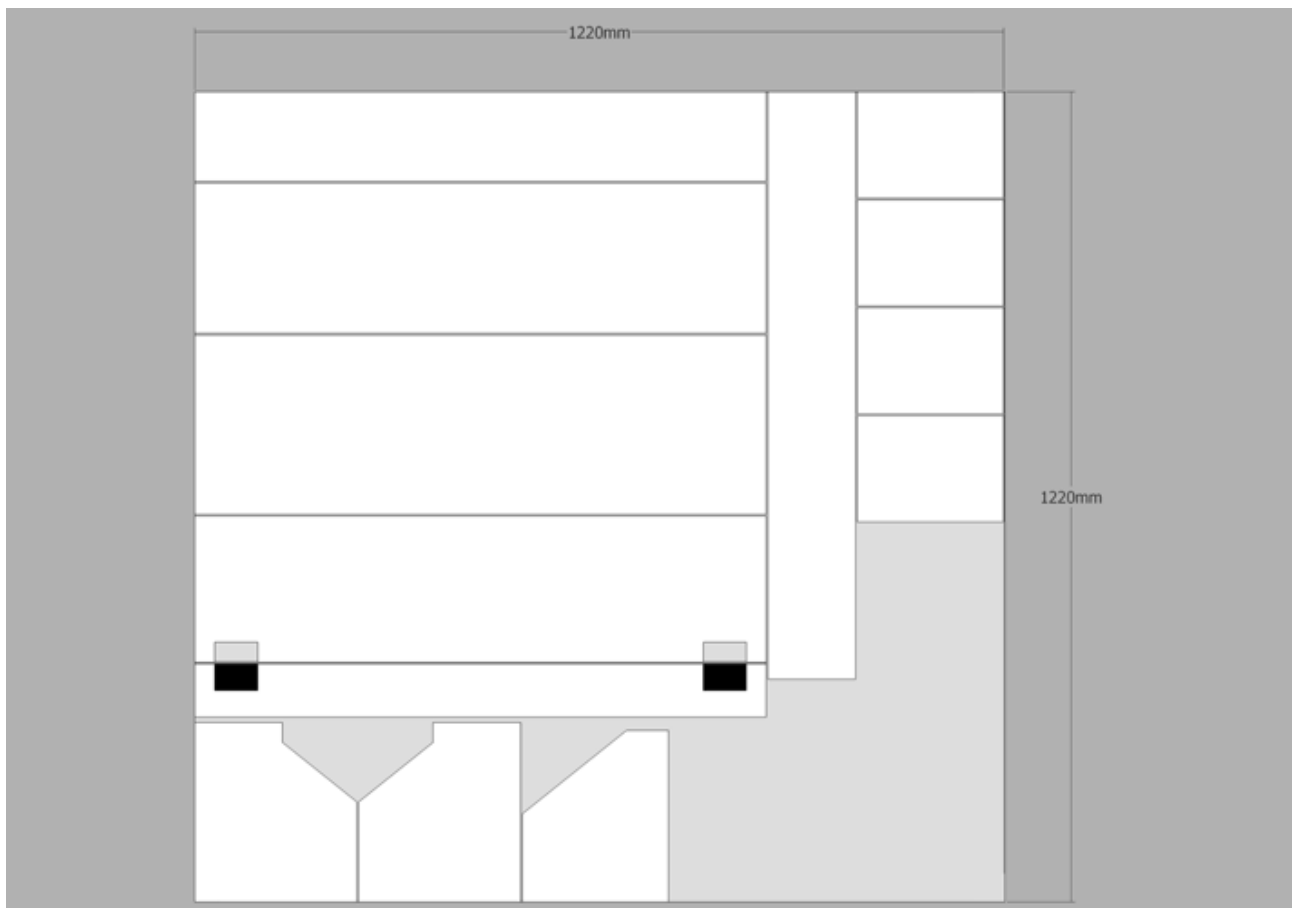
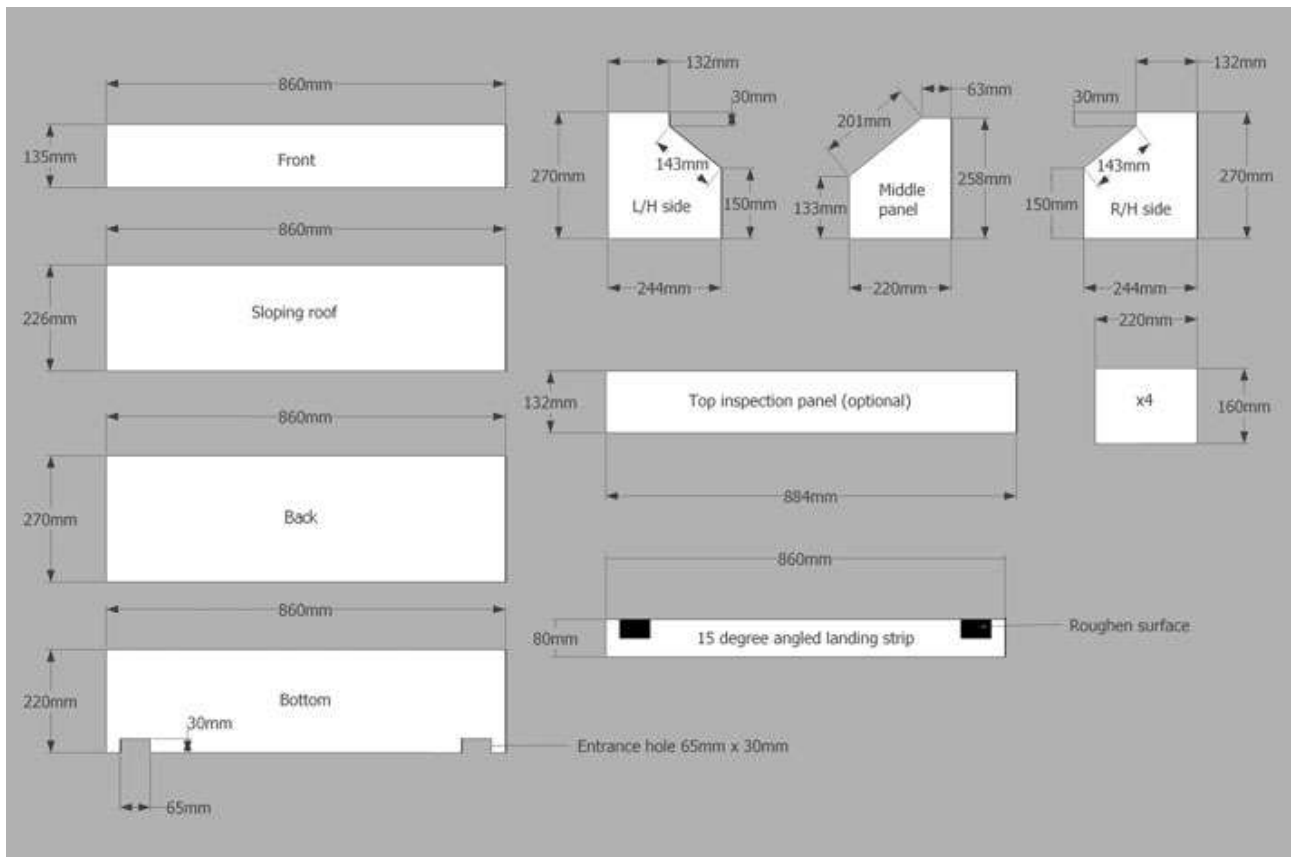
x1 1220 x 1220 12mm Plywood

x6 50mm brackets

Handful of 25mm galvanised nails

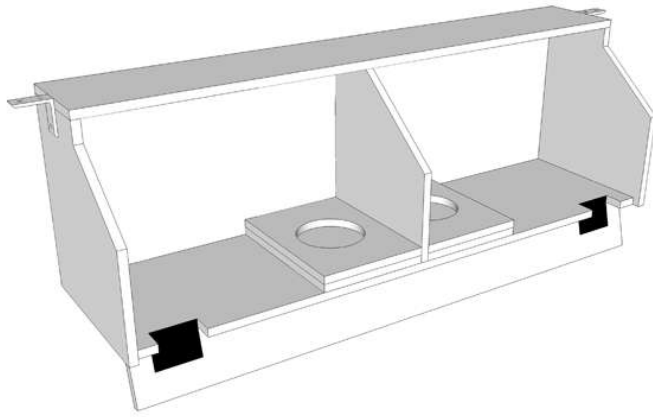
Instant grab adhesive to glue each panel together

Swift Box Dimensions & Layout





Bristol Swifts



Swift Box internal view

The top inspection panel isn't essential, but finishes it off well. The roughened surface under each hole is made by using self adhesive glue in lines about 2cm apart. Black/dark paint at the entrance helps Swifts locate the entrance hole. The angle of the landing strip should be around 15 degrees.

Photos showing box without optional top section | Ribbed Landing Strip | Entrance Hole



Photos showing finished boxes in position



For lots more information on Swifts and how to help them see these two websites!

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