## Give a 'hog a home

Hedgehogs

hibernation

winter called

make

nests in



## HEDGEHOG STREET

CITY OF WILDLIFE

'hibernacula' – these can be under hedgerows, fallen logs or in areas of scrub like bramble. They are durable, insulated and help maintain humidity to prevent dehydration for the sleeping 'hog. They also make simpler day time nests for resting, sleeping, breeding and rearing young in over summer.

Your garden can provide lots of great nesting spots for 'hogs - under your shed, in compost heaps, shrubs, under leaf piles or under logs or spare building materials. But, sometimes hedgehogs need a helping hand. You can buy prebuilt hedgehog houses online or in stores, or have a go at making your own - homemade houses tend to be more popular with our prickly visitors.

> It's best to clean my house in March/April when I've finished hibernating and left. But please make sure it's before the breeding season as disturbing a mother can cause her to abandon her hoglets

## Any straw or dry leaves left outside will likely be taken in and used for Ta

Houses are

best placed in

sheltered locations, along boundaries, in back

gardens and within 5m of

the house. The presence of

pets or predators doesn't

appear to put off a local

hedgehog from

moving in.

The simple DIY Hedgehog House

and used for bedding.
Take a spare plastic storage box, planter or milk crate (make sure it has holes) and flip it upside down.
Make an entrance that's 13cm x 13cm
and provide some bedding like dry leaves or pet straw. You can cover the rest of the box with some plastic sheeting and then cover with leaves/soil/grass cuttings.

## The tricky DIY Hedgehog House

