

# Robin

**As our climate changes, gardens are becoming even more vital to wildlife and people. They can provide shade, absorb carbon, soak up flood water and help to cool buildings. A well managed network of gardens stretching across the Sussex would also help wildlife to move more freely and adapt to climate change enabling us to create a living landscape**

## Wildcall

Tel: 01273 494777  
email: wildcall@sussexwt.org.uk



Sussex Wildlife Trust  
Woods Mill  
Henfield  
West Sussex  
BN5 9SD

Tel: 01273 492630  
email: enquiries@sussexwt.org.uk  
Web: www.sussexwt.org.uk

## Nest-site necessities

Robins are well known for nesting in virtually anything with easy access. Natural sites include banks, bushes and tree roots. Artificial nest include open nest box and even abandoned kettles. They are safer from Magpies in the garden shed or garage, and may use a shelf or something hanging on the wall for nesting – a favourite is the back of a partly open drawer or, possibly, the pocket of a gardening jacket.



Robin / Vanda Pellins

## Building materials

Mosses, grasses and leaves. They don't need your help provided you are not too tidy in the garden.



Robin chicks / David Ball

## Chick care

Tame robins appreciate your help in providing food for their young. If they start taking away food, rather than eating it straight away, chicks are being fed – or your Robin is a male and he is feeding his mate. Tame Robins love to follow you when you are hoeing or digging, the best foods being natural.

## Special dietary requirements

Robins will sell their souls for mealworms. Also like nice fat sultanas, grated cheese and sunflower hearts. Robins are also keen on the berries of the spindle tree.

## Night shelter

Robins look for somewhere secluded and solitary.



Robin feeding / Alan Price

## The ideal territory

Will have lots of cover and many possible nest sites. Robins defend their territories throughout the year. In some parts of the country it is estimated that up to 10% of robin deaths are as result of territory disputes.

## When it's all happening

From March to July, the pair indulge in lots of courtship feeding. The male provides the female with extra food – not just titbits, but to help egg formation, to keep her going while she is incubating and to reinforce the pair bond.



Robins courting / [www.natureconservationimaging.com](http://www.natureconservationimaging.com) - Jeremy Early

**Breeding Starts:** Late March

**Number of Clutches:** 2 -3

**Number of Eggs:** 3-9

**Incubation Days:** 12-15

**Fledge Days:** 12-15

Copyright Sussex Wildlife Trust December 2009

WildCall Factsheet disclaimer: All information contained within Sussex Wildlife Trust WildCall factsheets is to the best of our knowledge true and accurate at the time of printing. The Sussex Wildlife Trust will not accept any responsibility or liability for any losses or damage resulting from following the advice given. Registered Charity No. 207005. Registered in England. Company Number 698851