

Wren

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

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Nest-site necessities

Most nests are in thick brambles – any space that can accommodate a large grapefruit will take a Wren's nest. The male will build several ball shapes nest that are hidden from view, he then lets his mate pick her favourite and line it. The ball of leaves that contains the nesting chamber may also be built in thick climbers, or where a brick is missing from a wall.



Wren entering nest /
www.natureconservationimaging.com - Jeremy Early

Building materials

The nest has an outer ball of leaves, mosses, roots and grasses. The female will line the nest with soft materials such as feathers.

Chick care



Cat / Darin Smith

Keep the cat in for 24 hours a day when the youngsters fledge and are little balls of feathers, incompetent at flying.

Special dietary requirements

Grated-hard-cheese, mealworms, peanuts and fatty treats are all excellent supplementary feeding for Wrens. More natural sources of food for this insectivore include small beetles, spiders and moth larvae.



Wren / Vanda Pellins

Night shelter

Wrens roost at night as a family in thick cover, in an old nest, or within a cavity, a nestbox or even a House martin nest. Winter roosts of more than 50 have been recorded.

The ideal territory

Can be almost anywhere the bird will be able to find food in the midst of thick cover. If you are too tidy, you'll put your Wren's at a disadvantage.

When it's all happening

The male starts nest-building in March, and breeding continues from April into August.



Wren / Alan Price, Gatehouse

Breeding Starts: Late April

Number of Clutches: 2

Number of Eggs: 5-8

Incubation Days: 13-18

Fledge Days: 15-20

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