

# Nesting Box Kit

## Construction Procedures

### Ringtail Possum Nesting Box

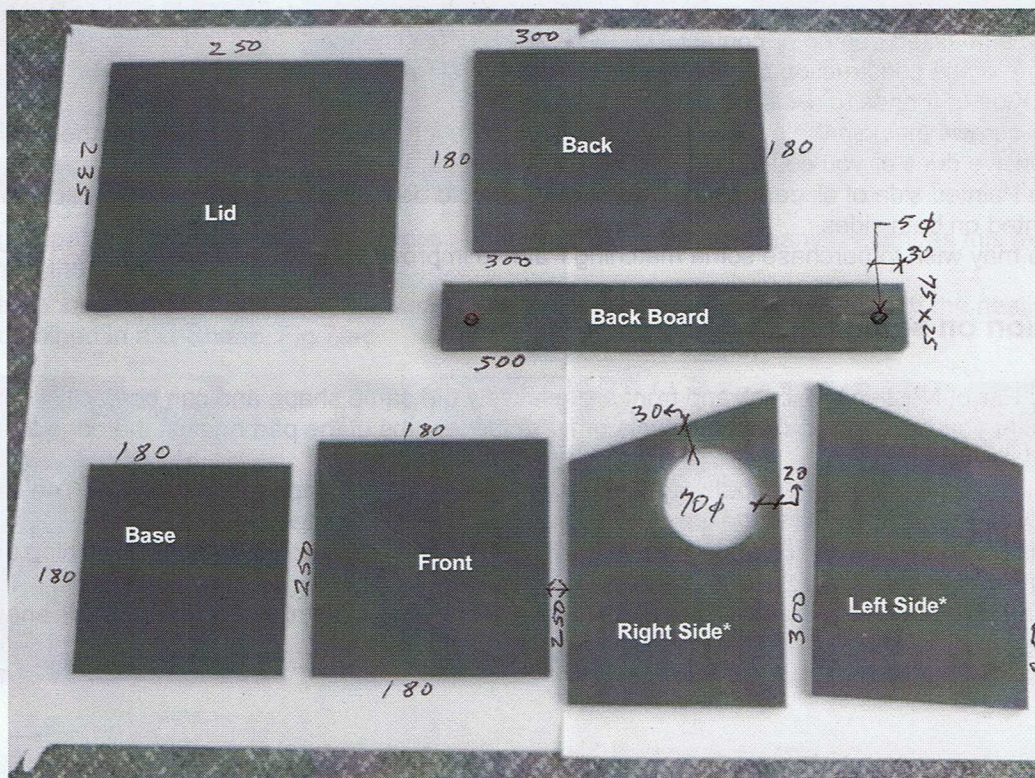
Congratulations on your purchase of our school and community group nesting box kit. In order to make the process of constructing your box easier, we have included these instructions. Please read over these instructions before you begin constructing your nesting box in order to ensure you have all the equipment required.

#### Contents of Ringtail Possum Box Kit

- |                                       |                            |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 x Ringtail Box Floor                | 12 x 1" screws             |
| 1 x Ringtail Box Front                | 4 x small hinge screws     |
| 1 x Ringtail Box Back                 | 1 x swing latch            |
| 1 x Ringtail Box Lid                  | 1 x latch hook             |
| 2 x Ringtail Box Sides (Left & Right) | 1 x hinge                  |
| 1 x Back Board                        | 1 x 2" bolt                |
|                                       | 1 x Nut                    |
|                                       | 3 x 1" Mudflap Washers     |
|                                       | 1 x 3/4" Washer – "spacer" |
|                                       | 1 x 1" Flat Head Nail      |
|                                       | 2 x 4" Galvanised Nail     |

#### Tools / Miscellaneous equipment required

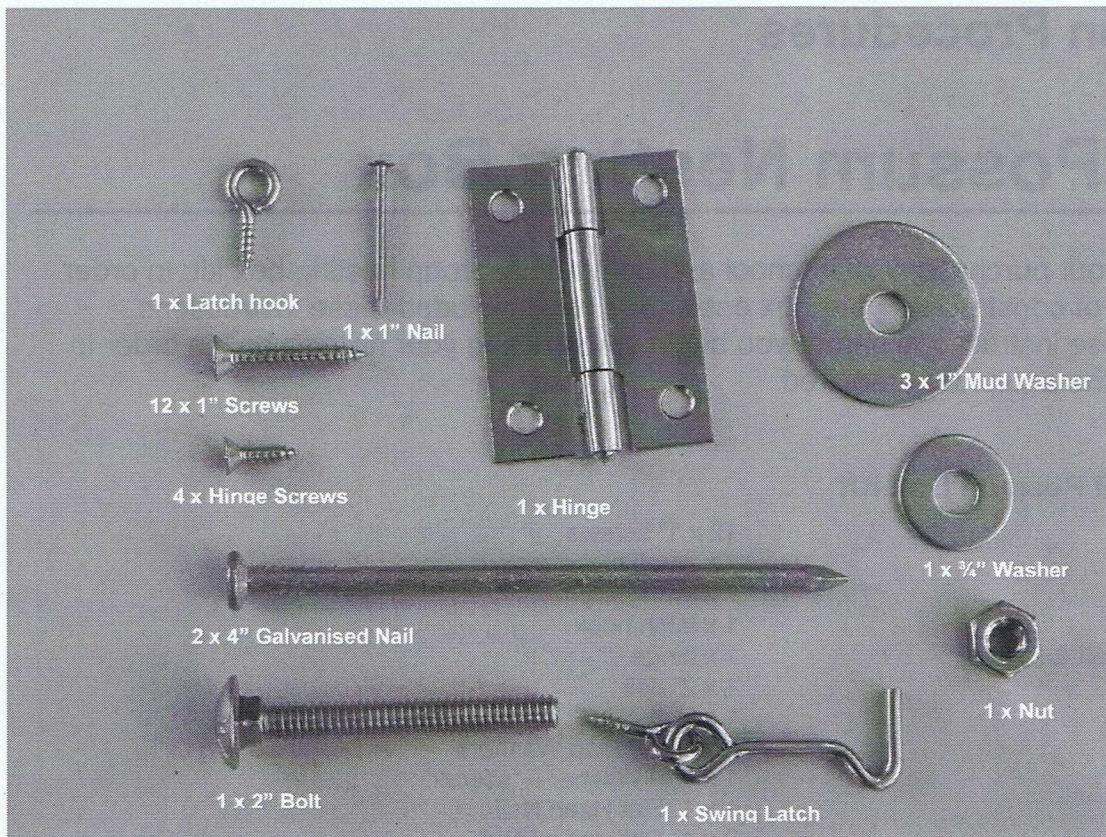
- Hammer
- Phillips (Cross) Head Screwdriver (Or fitting for Power Drill)
- Tube of non-toxic adhesive (similar to liquid nails)
- Power Drill
- 3mm (1/8") or 4mm Wood Drill Bit
- 1/4" Drill Bit
- Paint Brush
- Paint



ALL PANELS 12mm PLYWOOD.



## The fixings...



## Before you begin:

1. Make sure you are constructing your nesting box in a well ventilated, clean and clear workshop space. Lay all parts out on a workbench (or table) and ensure that you can correctly identify each part of your nesting box.
2. A certain level of skill is assumed in the instructions. If you encounter any difficulties please seek advice from a qualified person or contact (03) 9479 2871 for assistance
3. Some of the construction steps require more than a single pair of hands or it could be a great project to get the Kids or friends to assist.
4. The screws that join the edges of the nesting box are intended to hold the box together while the strong adhesive dries or you could just as easily use nails in the interim.
5. The Painted side of all parts to this nesting box should be facing outside. The lid to each box has been painted on both sides.
6. You may wish to purchase some matching Paint to improve your finished nesting box.

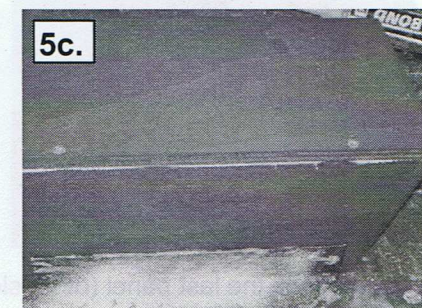
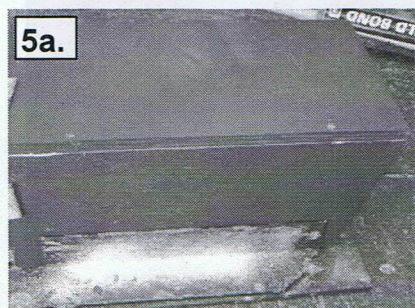
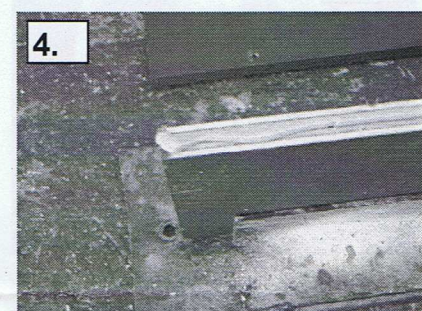
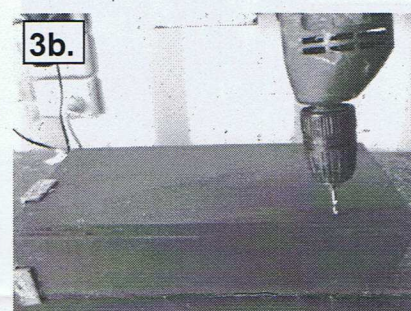
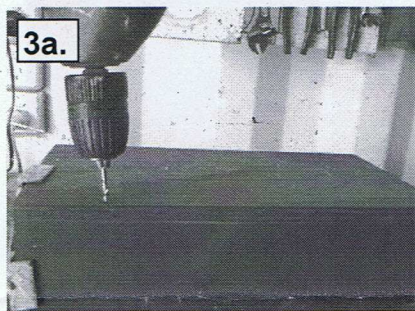
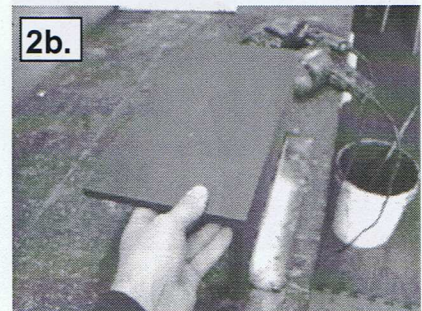
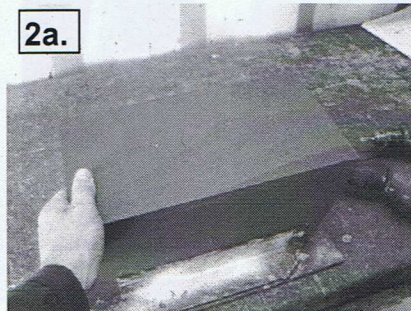
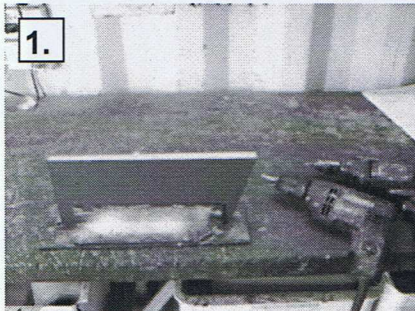
## Clarification on some parts:

1. The Parrot Nesting box back and front are relatively the same shape and can be easily confused. To ensure you have the correct parts just compare the lengths of the part against the edge that it connects to on the side panels.
2. You can further distinguish between the back front and lid by comparing there sizes. The back is the longest, then the front and the lid is the shortest part (and is painted on both sides).
3. To make the construction easier, panels have been painted on exposed edges. Matching up unpainted edges will ensure correct construction.
4. **Pleas note:** Not all pictures relate to the nesting box you're constructing... instructions should be carefully read.



## Constructing the Box:

1. Place the front panel of the nesting box in a vice or hold it steady on one edge. (see Fig 1)
2. Position one of the side panels in place along the edge of the front (at right angles) – Hold tight or fix with clamps (Fig 2a-b).
3. Drill two holes about 2 inches (5cm) from both ends (one each end) of the side ensuring that the holes go through the side panel into the front panel. When the screws are tightened this provides a strong join between panels (Fig 3a-b)
4. Remove the side panel and apply adhesive along the join area. (Fig 4)
5. Place the side panel into place again (on the adhesive) and screw into place with two 1" screws. (Fig 5a-c)



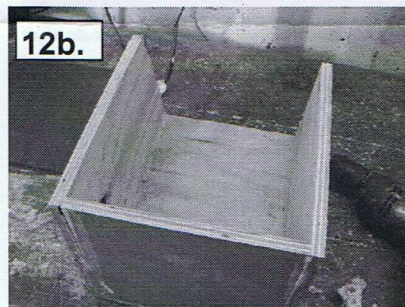
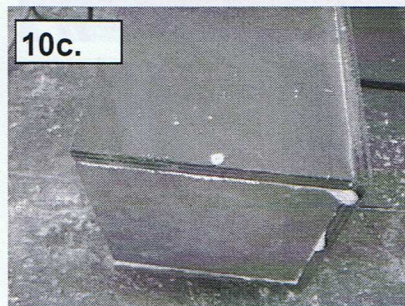
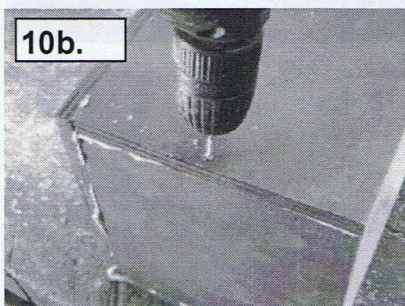
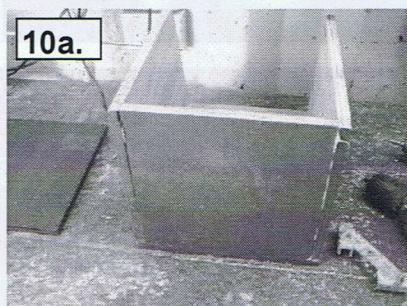
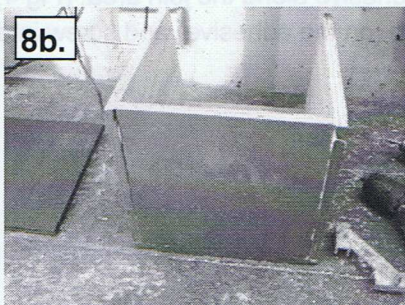
6. Use a rag or paper towel to remove any excess adhesive. Do not use a cleaning agent as this may compromise the glue
7. Repeat the above steps for attaching the back panel to the side panel. So that three of the nesting box panels are joined in a U-Shape. Fig 7a-c



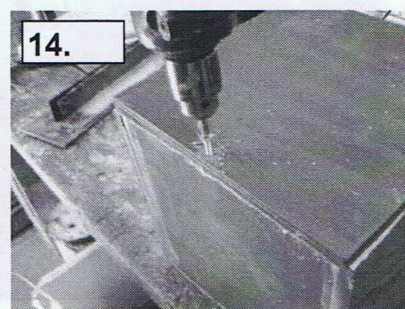


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8. Insert the base in the bottom section of the nesting box to determine the "Best Fit" position. Make sure the painted side faces outwards. (Fig 8a-b)
9. Remove the base and glue the three edges of it that match the three panels already fastened together. (Fig 9)
10. Insert the base into position and drill holes in the centre of the bottom of each panel to fasten the base in place. (1 hole per panel = 3 holes in total) (Fig10a-d)
11. Wipe off any excess Adhesive.
12. Place the nesting box so that it is facing upright and apply adhesive along the edge. (Fig12a-b)



13. Place the last panel (other side panel) onto the glued section and push firmly into place. Fig 13
14. Drill and Screw the base to the side panel first. Fig 14
15. Hold the last side panel firmly in place so that all edges line up.
16. Drill and screw the last side panel into place using 2 screws for each edge. When finished there should be 5 screws holding the last side panel to the rest of the nesting box.
17. Wipe off any excess glue.





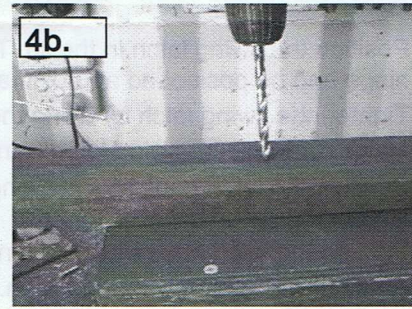
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18. Your nesting box should now look like Figure 18.

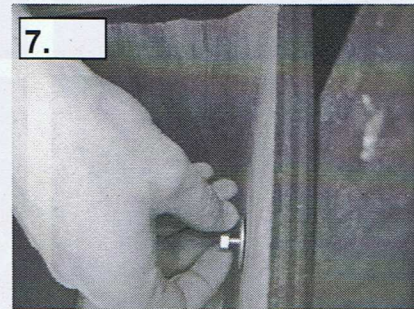
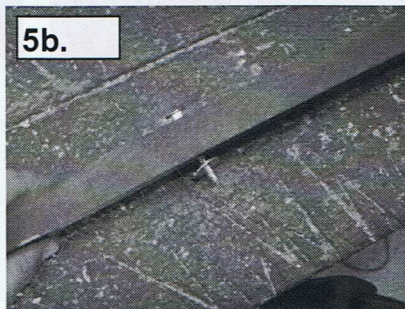


### Attaching the Back Board....

1. Place the nesting box face down on the bench (so that the front panel is touching the bench)
2. Place the back board on the nesting box so that it sticks out an equal distance from both the top and bottom of the nesting box. (Fig 2.)
3. Hold it firmly in place
4. Drill three holes using the  $\frac{1}{4}$ " drill bit. One hole at either end of the back board, about 25mm from the end, this is to attach the box to the tree, and one slightly higher than the centre of the nesting box to hold the backboard to the nesting box. (Fig 4a-b)



5. Remove the backboard from the box and push the 2" bolt through the centre hole of the backboard and place the  $\frac{3}{4}$ " "spacer" over the end. This washer provides the ability to rotate the backboard into a suitable position. (Fig 5a-b.)
6. Push the bolt and the backboard into place on the nesting box.
7. Place one of the 1" mudflap washers over the end of the bolt and fasten the nut with a spanner until you can just rotate the backboard. (Fig 7.)

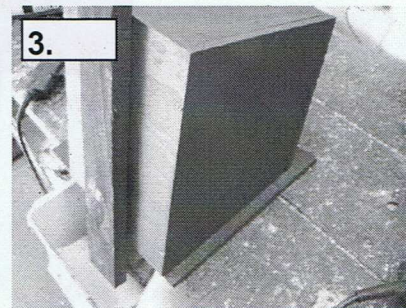
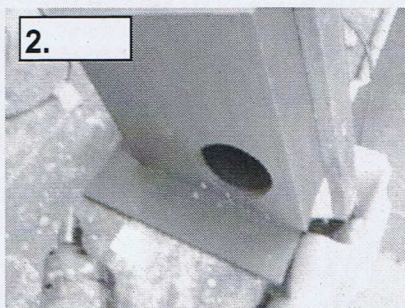
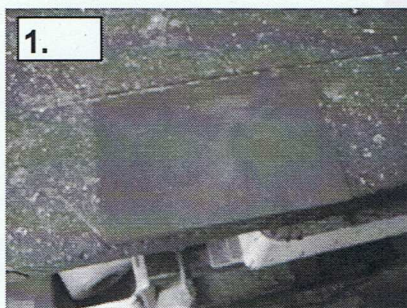




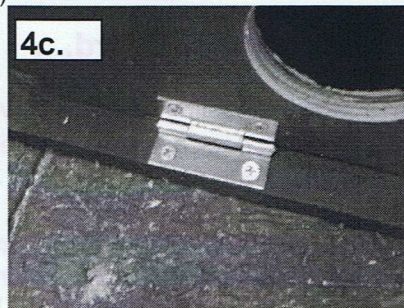
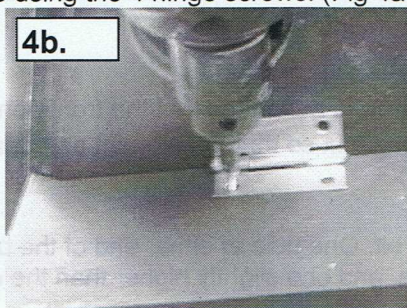
## Attaching the Lid...

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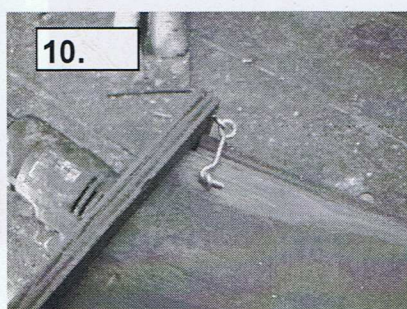
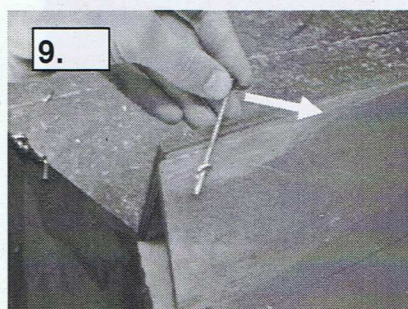
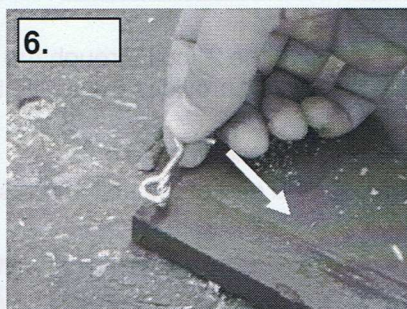
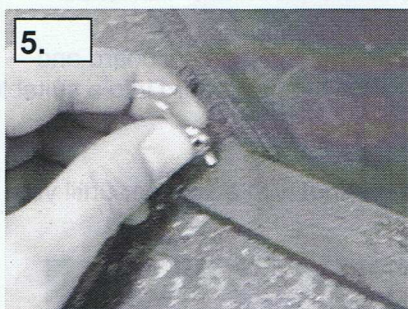
1. Lay the lid down on the edge of your work bench with the inside facing up. (Fig 1.)
2. Position the nesting box (upside down) so that the lid is hard up against the backboard. (Fig 2.)
3. Leave about 25mm of the lid over hanging the side panel without the entrance hole. (Fig 3.) The entrance hole should have the bulk of the lid hanging over it. This provides shelter from the weather. (Rain & Sun)



4. Position the hinge centrally, with one side on the lid and the other on the side panel that has the entrance hole. Screw the Hinge into place using the 4 hinge screws. (Fig 4a-c)

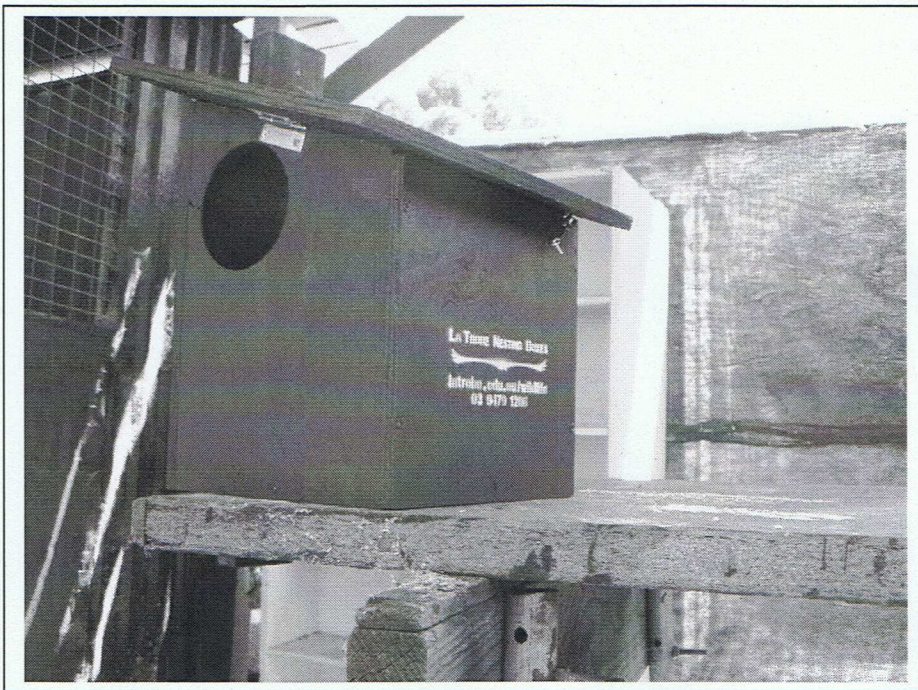


5. Position the swing latch in the lid. The swing latch should be located on the opposite side of the lid to the hinge and be positioned approximately 5mm from the front edge of the box. (Fig 5.)
6. Tighten the swing latch by using the arm of the swing latch. (Fig 6.)
7. Make sure that the swing latch is in a position to swing toward the side panel
8. Position the latch hook so the swing latch will just touch the outer edge of the latch hook (to provide a firm hold of the lid) (Fig 8.)
9. Tighten the latch hook by using a nail. (this is often easier with the lid open) (Fig 9.)
10. Attach the latch firmly into position. (Fig 10.)





**Congratulations.... Your Nesting Box is Complete!**



**To improve the look of your nesting box (and to give it further protection), you may wish to paint it with a non-toxic water base exterior paint. - OLIVE GREEN -**

For information regarding nesting boxes please call the La Trobe Wildlife Sanctuary  
on  
(03) 9479 1206  
[wildlife@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:wildlife@latrobe.edu.au)

Please see the enclosed pamphlet for instructions for installing your nesting box.