Nest Cup Box Installation & Mounting Guide

Complete customer guidelines for safe, durable, and optimal placement of Nest Cup Box products.

Tools & Materials Required

Ensure you have the correct tools and equipment ready before beginning installation.

Installation Type	Required Tools	Required Materials
Backing Board Mount (Screwed Mechanical)	Power drill, wood drill bits, masonry/driver bit, pencil, ladder	Stainless steel screws (min. 5mm x 60mm) and wall plugs (if mounting to brick/masonry)
Direct Nest Cup Mount (Adhesive)	Caulking gun, cleaning cloth/brush, painter's masking tape, ladder	High-tack external grab adhesive (*Soudal Fix ALL Crystal / Clear* recommended), solvent cleaner

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Products supplied with a Backing Board

Installation Overview

Products supplied on timber backing boards require mechanical fixing using stainless steel screws. This provides a robust, permanent attachment capable of withstanding severe weather conditions.

Pre-Drilling Requirement

- Pre-drilling pilot holes through the wooden backing board is mandatory prior to mounting.
- Direct driving without pilot holes can split the timber, compromising structural integrity and moisture resistance.
- Drill pilot holes at least 15–20mm in from the edges of the backing board.

Step-by-Step Instructions

1. Positioning & Marking: Place the backing board against the target wall or structure at the desired location. Ensure that the top edge sits flush up against the overhang. Mark the screw hole locations through the pre-drilled holes onto the wall using a pencil.
2. Substrate Preparation
    - For Brick/Concrete/Render: Drill pilot holes at the marked points using an appropriate masonry bit and insert suitable wall plugs flush with the surface.
    - For Timber Structures: Pre-drill small pilot holes into the wall structure to prevent wood splitting.
3. Securing the Board
   Align the backing board over the prepared holes. Fasten securely using corrosion-resistant stainless steel screws. Ensure the board is snug against the wall surface without over-tightening, which could crush the timber fibers.
4. Final Inspection
   Check that the assembly is perfectly rigid and firmly attached to the building structure.

Individual Nest Cups (Direct Adhesive)

Adhesive Mounting Overview

Individual nest cups designed without timber backing boards can be adhered directly to suitable exterior building substrates (such as render, smooth brick, stone, or soffit boards) using a high-grade external hybrid polymer adhesive.

Recommended Adhesive Specifications

- Approved Adhesive: *Soudal Fix ALL Crystal / Clear* (or equivalent high-tack, exterior-grade SMX polymer / hybrid sealant-adhesive).
- Must be fully waterproof, UV-resistant, permanently flexible, and compatible with outdoor masonry and composite materials.
- Do not use standard interior gap fillers, silicone sealants, or PVA-based adhesives.

Step-by-Step Instructions

1. Surface Preparation
   Clean both the back mounting rim of the nest cup and the wall target area thoroughly.

Remove all dirt, dust, loose mortar, moss, or grease. Wipe the wall clean with a solvent cleaner or dry brush and ensure the surface is completely dry.

2. Adhesive Application

   Apply a continuous, generous bead (approx. 6–8mm thickness) of *Soudal Fix ALL Crystal* around the entire flat rear flange/contact edge of the nest cup. Ensure no gaps are left in the bead to prevent water ingress behind the cup.

3. Mounting & Pressing

   Press the nest cup firmly against the target surface at the desired location. Apply firm, even pressure across the entire body for 30–60 seconds to ensure the adhesive spreads and makes total contact with the substrate.

4. Temporary Support

   Secure the nest cup in position using heavy-duty painter's masking tape or temporary mechanical support while the adhesive cures.

5. Curing Period

   Allow the adhesive to cure fully for at least 24 to 48 hours (depending on ambient temperature and humidity) before removing the temporary tape or disturbing the unit.

Placement Guidance





Correct siting is vital to encourage bird acceptance, protect broods from extreme weather, and align with House Martin Conservation UK & Ireland's guidelines.

- **Installation Height:** Mount units at a minimum height of **2.5m to 3.0m+** above ground level (ideally at first-floor eaves or higher). Elevation provides returning birds with a clear flight approach while keeping young broods safe from ground predators.

- **Tuck Tight Under Eaves:** Position cups directly beneath building eaves, soffits, or overhangs. Fitting the top rim flush against the overhang shields the entrance from heavy rain, direct sunlight, and aerial predators while preserving the correct entrance size.
- **Orientation & Aspect:** Choose a **North, East, or North-East** facing wall. South and West elevations must be avoided to prevent intense afternoon sun from causing dangerous heat buildup inside the cup during summer.
- **Clear Flight Path:** Maintain a clear, direct approach to the nest entrance. Ensure the area immediately around the cup is free from dense branches, overhead cables, or climbing plants that could impede flight.
- **Spring Mud Patch Tip:** Providing a small damp mud patch or wet soil nearby in spring (April–May) gives returning birds essential material to line their new handcrafted home or customize entrance rims.
