

West Midlands Swift Academy project – Free Swift boxes available



Swift box placement information

There are a few considerations for Swift box placement:

- Must be 4.5m high or above - minimum height under eaves of a two-storey house
- They should be installed on walls facing between NW and NE - south-facing walls can get too hot
- They should not be installed directly above windows that are regularly opened to minimise disturbance by people
- There should be clear flight lines into the box, i.e. do not install on a wall in a narrow alley between houses or if there is a tree or cables immediately in front of the box
- If installing multiple boxes, placing 0.5 - 1 metre apart is ideal

Questions

1. Is your house in Walsall or Birmingham?
2. Are you the home owner / do you have permission from the home owner to install a Swift box?
3. Do you have a suitable location for box placement as per the attached guide?
4. Is this location safely accessible by ladder?
5. Would you have space for more than one box in this location or elsewhere on your house? (Just in case we have leftover boxes that need homes!)
6. Would you be interested in having a Swift caller system? (This is a small speaker that plays Swift calls to encourage them to investigate new boxes during the summer)

If you're interested in a free Swift box, please contact jamie.murphy@rspb.org.uk with answers to the above questions as soon as possible, no later than 13th February 2026.