



INSTRUCTIONS

Time: 10 minutes

Materials:

- 1 pinecone
- 1-2 tbsp nut butter or honey (not included)
- 10-12-inch piece of twine
- 1 packet of birdseed

STEP 1



Tie the piece of twine to the top of your pinecone.

Then, tie the ends of the twine together to make a loop to hang the pinecone later.

STEP 2



Place approximately 1-2 tablespoons of nut butter or honey (your choice!) on a plate or cookie sheet.

Using a spoon or butter knife, carefully spread the nut butter/honey onto the pinecone. Try to avoid the very top and bottom of the pinecone so that you have somewhere to hold onto when adding the birdseed in the next step.

Spend some time spreading a little bit of nut butter/honey on each one of the pinecone scales. Use as much nut butter/honey as you need to cover each scale on the pinecone.

STEP 3: BIRDSEED



Open your packet of birdseed. Evenly sprinkle birdseed on all sides of the pinecone.

Let the bird feeder set for at least 1 hour before hanging or handling further, particularly if you chose to use honey. Once the nut butter or honey hardens, you're ready to move onto the next step!

STEP 4: HANG



Once the nut butter or honey has hardened, choose a branch to hang your bird feeder.

Your bird feeder will be visited most often if you find a place where:

- (a) birds have a nearby branch to sit while snacking,
- (b) birds feel sheltered from predators, and
- (c) predators (such as cats or squirrels) can't easily reach it.*

Bonus points if you can find a spot that's easily visible from the inside of the house so you can watch your new bird friends visiting for a snack!

*If there are outdoor cats near your house, you might want to find a location at least 10 feet high. To avoid having squirrels eat the entire pinecone, consider choosing a thinner "sitting branch" that can't support a squirrel's weight.

STEP 5: OBSERVE

After the birds have had time to discover your bird feeder, you can record the numbers of birds who visit on a pad of paper. You can also learn about the species of birds visiting your bird feeder using the Backyard Birds of Maryland guide on the next page.



BACKYARD BIRDS OF MARYLAND



COMMON GRACKLE



SONG SPARROW



NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD



WHITE-THROATED SPARROW



NORTHERN CARDINAL



EASTERN BLUEBIRD

BALTIMORE
COLUMBIA



NORTHERN FLICKER



BLUE JAY



DOWNY WOODPECKER



AMERICAN CROW

GERMANTOWN
SILVER SPRING



AMERICAN GOLDFINCH



TUFTED TITMOUSE



MOURNING DOVE



HOUSE SPARROW



WHITE BREASTED NUTHATCH



DARK-EYED JUNCO



HOUSE FINCH



CAROLINA WREN



CAROLINA CHICKADEE



HAIRY WOODPECKER



AMERICAN ROBIN



RED BELLIED WOODPECKER



BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD



EUROPEAN STARLING



RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD

BirdWatchingAcademy.com