The Northern Cardinal is cool. Bright red feathers and beautiful songs make them easy to spot. They mostly live in the eastern and central U.S., plus some parts of Canada and Mexico. They like woodlands, gardens, and shrublands. They need lots of trees and shrubs for cover and food.

I’ll put it in a quiet part of my yard, about ten feet off the ground, to keep it safe from predators and bad weather. It's important to keep it at least ten feet away from bird feeders and water sources to reduce competition and stress for the birds, so they can feel safe and comfortable.

Cardinals don’t like the traditional closed birdhouses. They prefer open, platform-style houses. I'll make mine with one open side so they can come and go easily. The birdhouse will be about 8x8 inches, made from untreated wood to avoid chemicals. Neutral colors work best because they blend in and don’t attract predators, which is key. The roof should be slanted or flat to keep rain and snow out.

I’ll add some nearby greenery for extra cover. After each breeding season, I’ll clean the birdhouse to prevent diseases and parasites. Regular checks for damage will keep it in good condition.