



TG3D Microbat box assembly instructions

The TG3D microbat box is a strong, robust home for tiny bats.

The box is constructed of “C/D” grade 12mm plywood. The “C” side (the better quality side) is on the outside of the box to simplify painting. Also bats don’t seem to care about surface finish. There will be marks and occasional top surface knots on the material which will not affect the functionality or durability of the box. Plywood is dimensionally stable and the box should slot together however a tiny bit of “encouragement” might be needed. T

The box is machine cut using a “Computer Numeric Control” (CNC) router. This provides accurate joins and makes the boxes simple to assemble. It is screwed, not nailed, for strength, durability and water resistance. The screw holes are pre drilled and countersunk. The CNC cut is designed to be tight to assist in excluding water from the joints..

The kit is supplied with sufficient screws to assemble the box and the mount. You will need to supply mounting screws however the box is very light and 2 50mm wood screws will easily hold it in a tree.

Tools required.

- #2 Phillips head screwdriver. A power screwdriver will make this job faster however make sure you turn the torque settings down. This also allows you to “set” the screws more accurately. Flush with the top surface is sufficient.
- Sandpaper. 120 grit should be sufficient. Use this to sand the completed box prior to painting. A small orbital sander works well if you have one but hand sanding won’t take long.

Parts

The box is supplied with the following parts. Note: the sides with the “grooves” are designed to go on the inside of the box. This gives the bats somewhere to grab and roost.

- A back, this is the longest piece in the kit
- Base – this is identified by the bat engraved into it.
- Top – small square
- 2 sides – The 2 sides are the same and are interchangeable.
- Front – looks a bit like the sides however it has “tabs” where the sides have “slots”
- Screws for assembly, we normally supply excess screws so don’t be alarmed if there are a few left over.

Assembly

Start with the back. Put it on your table with the grooves upright. Offer up one of the sides, engaging the tab and put a screw in loosely – just it hold it in place.



Take the base, ensuring the “bat” is on the outside of the box and engage the tab in the side and the 2 slots in the base. Again, put a screw into the tab on the side and just nip it up a little. The 2 small “arm” on the base should be flush with the “back of the back”



Now put the other side in, again ensuring the grooves are on the inside of the box. Loosely put a screw in the tabs connecting the back to the side and the base to the side.



The front is the next step – there should be 3 screws that hold it to the base and 2 sides.



Finally, add the top – there are again, 3 screws into the front and 2 sides to add.



You can now tighten all the screws. They only need to be snugged down. It is easy to over tighten and strip the threads, especially if you are using a power screwdriver. Push the components tightly together as you tighten the screws.

You should now have a completed bat home! Congratulations. Check all the sides for missing screws.

Finishing

TG3D has given the box a light sand before dispatch but don't be afraid to give the box a light sand around the joints. Sand and paint box it in your desired colour.

2 coats of quality exterior grade paint to all outside surfaces will prolong the life of the box. We recommend Dulux Weathershield. Paint the box once assembled. Do not paint the inside.

Mounting

Locate the box in an area that doesn't receive full sun in summer - east to south would stop the bats from cooking is suggested. Under a house would work too.

The box is very light (just like the bats) so drill a mounting hole in the tab at the top as well as at the very bottom below the entrance. Screw the box to a tree, post or maybe the side of your house.

TG3D hopes your local microbat population is happy in their new home.