



Backyard bird feeders are a fun way to see, support, and learn about local birds. And they're easy to make! Try making one or more of these simple feeders and see what kinds of birds you attract.

Bird Feeding Tips

- [Place your birdfeeders](#) in places that aren't too windy, have good cover nearby, and minimize other hazards.
- Fill your birdfeeders with the amount of food that can be eaten in 2-3 days.
- [Keep your feeders and feeding area clean](#) by raking up spilled seed under them and wiping off permanent feeders.
- Provide water at your feeding area. Place a clay saucer that's at least 24 inches on a low stump or on the ground, and fill it with about 1 1/2 inches of water. Refill it every few days.

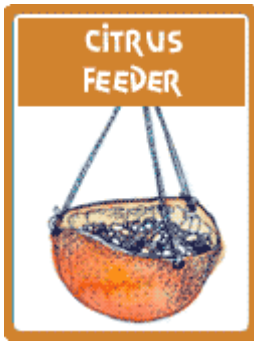


Pine Cone Feeder (easy)

Materials:

- pine cones
- peanut butter
- suet
- birdseed
- string or yarn

Gather pine cones. Use spoons to slather peanut butter and suet onto the pine cones. Roll the cones in birdseed. Tie to a tree branch with a piece of string or yarn.



Citrus Feeder (easy)

Materials:

- empty grapefruit or orange halves
- bird seed
- string or yarn

Make 3 evenly spaced holes through the top rim of an empty grapefruit or orange half. Thread pieces of string or yarn through each hole and knot one end to keep them from slipping out. Fill with birdseed and hang in a tree.



Bagel Feeder (easy)

Materials:

- stale bagels
- peanut butter
- lard
- bird seed
- string or yarn

Slather stale bagel in a mixture of peanut butter and lard. Roll in birdseed. Tie yarn or string around the bagel and hang from a tree.



Cranberry-Popcorn Feeder (intermediate)

Materials:

- needle and thread
- cooked popcorn
- cranberries

Use a needle and thread to string together popcorn and cranberries. Drape in trees or even in a discarded Christmas tree.



Milk or Juice Carton Feeder

Materials:

- paper milk or juice carton
- scissors
- string
- birdseed

You take any size milk/juice carton (the paper kind), and cut two windows on two sides directly across from one another. (Cutting all four sides makes the feeder unstable). Make the windows large, but do not cut all the way to the bottom because the seed will fall out. Children can decorate it with crayons, but avoid using markers, tape, or glue. Next, poke a hole at the top and place a string through it and tie a knot at the top of the string. Now the feeder is ready to use. Fill the bottom with seed and place it where birds can easily access it.