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## Helping Hedgehogs!

- Ensure there are 13x13cm square gaps in your boundary fence or wall to allow hedgehogs to pass through.
  - A wild corner offers shelter, protection and natural food for hedgehogs and other wildlife.
  - Don't use poisons, pesticides or slug pellets in your garden. Not only can these harm hedgehogs but also damage their food chain.
  - Provide a shallow dish of fresh water and food such as meat based pet food, good quality meaty hedgehog food or cat biscuits, especially during long dry spells. TIP: Look for meat listed as first ingredient.
  - Make or buy a hedgehog home, it may be used as a hibernation site in winter or as a nesting box for a mother and her hoglets in the warmer months.
  - Check thoroughly for hedgehogs before strimming or mowing.
  - Keep pea netting 22-30cms (9-12") off the ground so hedgehogs can pass safely under.
  - Check bonfires carefully and remove sleeping hedgehogs before lighting.
  - Keep pond and pool water levels topped up, provide a gently sloping edge if possible or place half submerged rocks in the water as an escape route for hedgehogs.
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- A black and white photograph of a hedgehog standing in a field of tall grass or reeds. The hedgehog is facing the camera, with its spines clearly visible. The background is slightly blurred, showing more of the natural habitat. The photo is tilted slightly to the right.



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