

## YOUR BACKYARD

## Building a Toad House

These can be made from clay or plastic flower pots or even large coffee cans. The clay pots make for a cooler home in the summer. Whichever kind you pick, make sure you place it in your garden in a shady area, such as under a shrub or plant with low hanging leaves.

A pot can be placed on its side with the lower half buried in the dirt, like a little cave. If the pot is placed upside down, you can tap/cut out an opening at least 4-5 inches wide and 3 inches high. If you don't want to break the pot you can use stones placed under one side to keep it up off the soil and make an entrance for the toad. Just be sure that the stones are secure, as you don't want the pot to fall and trap the toad inside.

Once you have picked your location and decided how you will place your toad house, have some fun and decorate it with paint, stickers or tiny rocks.... Use your imagination!

You should place a water source for the toad near the toad house. A bird bath or a small dish like the bottom dish of a clay pot would be a great idea.







Remember that too much handling can cause the toad to secrete a toxin that irritates your skin and may cause him to look elsewhere for a place to live.