

# WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

SWALLOW



HOUSE MARTIN



**Swallows and martins** have whitish patches,

SWIFT



**Swifts** are all dark & have longer wings.

Swifts cannot perch - they have very tiny legs - *A bird on a wire is not a swift!*

## They nest in different places:

Swifts nests are hidden in the eaves and crevices of buildings  
Swifts are never seen on the nest.



**HOUSE MARTINS** cup shaped mud nests outside houses under eaves



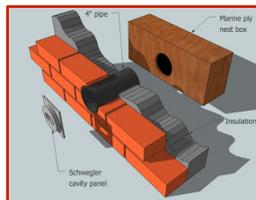
**SWALLOWS** nest inside outhouses & barns on beams or ledges

## NEST BOXES AND INTERNAL NEST BRICKS:

**S- brick** [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1t-RD4sSFj-oYMy\\_mkexKea-z3hV8DdY8/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1t-RD4sSFj-oYMy_mkexKea-z3hV8DdY8/view).



Stimpson box Model 30



DIY



Attraction call system - Swift micro caller

<https://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/Swift-Micro-Caller-calling-system-attraction-system-for-Swift-Nesting-boxes-/124324398687>

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

[ActionforSwifts.blogspot.co.uk](http://ActionforSwifts.blogspot.co.uk)

[Swift-conservation.org.uk](http://Swift-conservation.org.uk)

## DID YOU KNOW?

**Common Swift. *Apus apus***

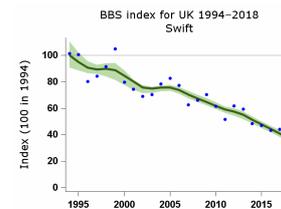


**5 African species migrate to Europe**

- May to early August
- Eat, drink, mate, sleep on wing
- Only land for 3 months when breeding
- Young don't land for 2–4 yrs

- Decline of swifts in the UK

- Swifts are on the British Trust for Ornithology's (BTO) Amber-list of Birds of Conservation Concern.
- **Latest figures from the BTO show a 57% decline.**
- ***This rate of decline will almost certainly result in swift being red-listed at the next review.***



- Swifts (*Apus apus*) nest in older buildings, in eaves and crevices, are 100% faithful to their nest site, returning year after year to precisely the same nest site.
- The population decline is due to loss of nest sites by inappropriate renovations (e.g. pointing the entrance holes which blocks entry to the nest).
- Modern buildings, with sealed walls, offer no opportunity for nest sites.
- Swifts are only in the UK from May to August, migrating from Africa to breed here.
- Swifts have only one brood of 2-3 chicks
- **Swift nests cause no damage nor create mess.** Natural nests are not inside the building but on top of the wall plate under the eaves.
- The short season, and the fact that swifts dart into nest holes very quickly, means that evidence of swifts is rarely found by consultants compiling biodiversity reports.