

Most Common Questions:

1. When is the deadline to submit our project? And where should it be submitted?
The deadline for submitting your bug hotel structure is April 1st. You can drop by anytime between 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM in Reynolds Hall, room 205 to drop off your bug hotel.
2. Regarding the submission, do we just submit a model for the hotel, or we can an explanation to justify our design/concept and selection of material?
Please submit a printed explanation of max 250 words along with your bug hotel. You may submit other visuals if you feel like this is needed.
3. Can the hotel be open or does it have to be closed with a door/something that can be removed for assessment of the bugs number?
It can be open but it depends on the design, as long as it still answers to the needs of the target species. The general aim is that the structure should be made in a way that it is possible to be inspected without being damaged.
4. Should the structure house ONLY ladybugs? Or should the other targeted species (bees) also be considered?
You may target other species found on this list:
<https://aub.edu.lb/botanicgarden/Pages/our-ladybirds.aspx>
We advise people to host only one species of insect for their bug hotel since even though two species are not direct enemies, they may behave unexpectedly and might not even come to inhabit your hotel if another species is living close by. Targeting one species allows for more consistency and a more expected outcome; a higher chance your bug hotel is a success.

All Asked Questions

1. When is the deadline to submit our project? And where should it be submitted?
The deadline for submitting your bug hotel structure is April 1st. You can drop by anytime between 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM in Reynolds Hall, room 205 to drop off your bug hotel.
2. I would like to inquire if the actual physical design of the hotel needs to be in AutoCad form or is writing about the design enough?
Please submit a printed explanation of max 250 words along with your bug hotel. You may submit other visuals if you feel like this is needed, however they are not a requirement.

3. I was wondering about the installation of the hotels on AUB campus
How and where will they be installed?
This has not been confirmed yet but we predict it will be around the terraces with orange trees, and mostly in the middle campus.
4. The deadline for submitting the project is April 1..is that true ?
Yes the deadline is April 1st please see the following link:
<https://aub.edu.lb/botanicgarden/Pages/build-ladybird-refuge.aspx>
5. Is lightning acceptable for the hotel, or it may affect negatively?
We must mention that electrically plugged bug hotels are prohibited as that would be a fire hazard since the structure will be installed around trees and dried leaves. Most light bulbs are considered a bug trap, however the ones that least effect bugs are yellow-hued or red-hued LED lighting.
6. Should the hotel attract/host only one species or can it include different species if they are not predators for one another?
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7. Can the hotel be open or does it have to be closed with a door/something that can be removed for assessment of the bugs number?
It can be open but it depends on the design, as long as it still answers to the needs of the target species. The general aim is that the structure should be made in a way that it is possible to be inspected without being damaged.
8. For the deliverables, are we only required to submit the final model? Can it be followed by a narrative explaining the design and the materials used?
Please submit a printed explanation of max 250 words along with your bug hotel. You may submit other visuals if you feel like this is needed, however they are not a requirement.
9. Should the structure house ONLY ladybugs? Or should the other targeted species (bees) also be considered?

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10. Can the structure be hung, for example, from a tree? Or should it be firmly set on a base on the ground?

You may hang it from a tree or make it stand on a pole etc... Having it placed on the ground is fine too but this might cause a risk of damage from cats, ants, lizards, and other species that could have easier access to it. You might need to think of ways to protect them from larger animals if you want it sitting on the ground.

11. When you say the structure should be capable of being open, what does that mean exactly? Would removable compartments work for that purpose?

The general aim is that the structure should be made in a way that it is possible to be inspected without being damaged. Removable compartments would work as it would be able to be inspected without it being damaged in the process of doing so.

12. Would bamboo sticks with 4mm openings work for ladybugs? That was my general assumption given the poster and the pictures, but the guidelines refer mostly to bark using that as a model.

Yes, heather ladybugs love squeezing into tight spaces for warmth and protection. We refer to the bark as an example of what these creatures use to hide in nature. The general idea is that the use of tight spaces (slits or holes) are the artificial copies of what the ladybugs look for in nature. I.e you don't have to use actual bark. Please refer to the guidelines for details: <https://aub.edu.lb/botanicgarden/Pages/ladybird-refuge-guidelines.aspx>

13. Are we supposed to submit a presentation or a booklet as an explanation for the jurors? If not, are we allowed to do this additionally to explain the unseen parts/ideas behind the product?

Please submit a printed explanation of max 250 words along with your bug hotel. You may submit other visuals if you feel like this is needed (like the booklet you mentioned), however they are not a requirement.

14. Are we allowed to have posters/brochures addressing the campus users, for marketing purposes, to be installed along with the structure built?

You are free to get creative in communicating your ideas.

15. Is there an insect habitat on campus, which you know of, that we can check to get inspired?

Unfortunately we do not have any example on campus. Online examples are a great way to get inspired, just be sure to take a look at the guidelines beforehand.

<https://aub.edu.lb/botanicgarden/Pages/ladybird-refuge-guidelines.aspx>

16. Is the potential location for the installation of the structure decided? If yes, can we have more information on the location? This would help us understand the context in which it will be put and study some installation techniques. Also, to be clear about its relationship to the campus users (is it hidden, is it in natural areas, is it high/low, is it accessible, etc...)

This has not been confirmed yet but we predict it will be around the terraces with orange trees, and mostly in the middle campus.

17. Would someone be available for a feedback session in the process of construction?

Unfortunately we cannot hold such sessions.

18. Is the design strictly for ladybug species or beneficial insects in general? If so, which species specifically?

You may target other species found on this list:

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19. What is the material allowed to be used?

If you are using colors or other materials you are not sure of, make sure they are eco-friendly through online sources, and provide what you used in the project description.

Please check the guidelines for more details

<https://aub.edu.lb/botanicgarden/Pages/ladybird-refuge-guidelines.aspx>

20. The size (dimension) of the hotel?

The volume of the bug hotel is maximum 30,000 cm³. Meaning it can be maximum 30x25x40 cm or 60x25x20, as long as the volume does not exceed 30,000 cm³. If it is spherical, its diameter can be maximum 38 cm in size. We are of course talking about maximum size, smaller structures are acceptable.

21. When is the deadline to submit our design?

The deadline is April 1st

22. Do you have any limit for the model cost? Would you prefer the low-cost model?

There is no preference for any cost model.

23. In order to monitor the bugs, do you prefer it to be manual or digital?

No preference for this, however we do need to mention that electric sources (as in being electrically plugged) are prohibited as this is a fire hazard and the bug hotel will be surrounded by dry matter and trees.

24. Where will it be installed on campus?

This has not been confirmed yet but we predict it will be around the terraces with orange trees, and mostly in the middle campus.

25. Do i design it in a way to be hanging on a tree or on the floor?

You may hang it from a tree or make it stand on a pole etc... Having it placed on the ground is fine too but this might cause a risk of damage from cats, ants, lizards, and other species that could have easier access to it. You might need to think of ways to protect them from larger animals if you want it sitting on the ground.

26. Concerning the other types of insects listed on your website, are they alternative species to the Ladybug? Or we should take them into consideration in addition to the ladybug?

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27. When specifying the hotel-user "insect " does it actually work to attract one insect according to the dimensions given? Or we should be adding food or other attractions in the shelter

No food is encouraged. This is meant to be a shelter for the target bug. You may add natural attractions like straw, dried dead leaves, dead wood, etc. Please keep in mind that this should require low maintenance (we cannot replace these attractions frequently), so please do not add materials containing water, as that will encourage fungus and parasites.

28. Regarding the submission, do we just submit a model for the hotel, or we can add panels or sheets to justify our design/concept and selection of material?

Please submit a printed explanation of max 250 words along with your bug hotel. You may submit other visuals if you feel like this is needed.

29. Should it be restricted to only the heather ladybug species or also the spotted ladybugs? Then, can I show designs of more familiar red and black spotted ladybugs, or only the 'burgundy/black' species?

You may design it with the familiar spotted color that the common ladybugs are known for, but keep in mind that the heather ladybugs are what exist on campus, there are no spotted ladybugs. So although the physical appearance of spots are totally fine, the structure should cater to the heather ladybugs. (i.e entrances should be 4mm in diameter or size etc) Please consult the guidelines for more detail:

<https://aub.edu.lb/botanicgarden/Pages/ladybird-refuge-guidelines.aspx>

30. Can I design with some acrylic paint on the outside? Is it safe? If not is colored wood okay?

If you are using colors or other materials you are not sure of, make sure they are eco-friendly through online sources, and provide what you used in the project description. As for acrylics, it depends on the type of acrylic paint.