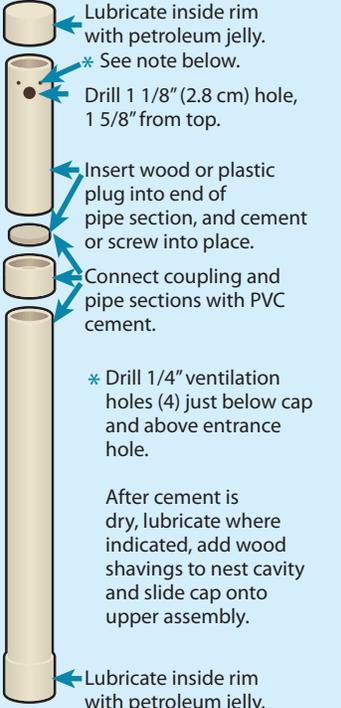
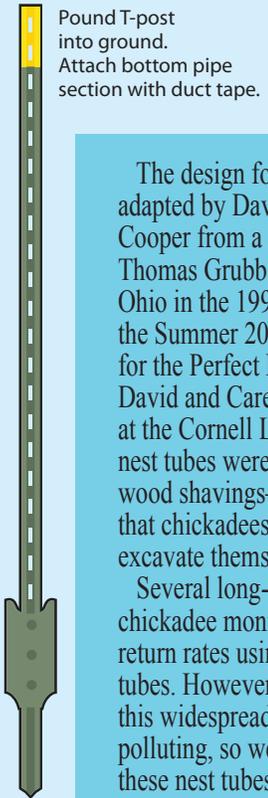


How to Make a Chickadee Nest Tube

Materials	Cutting	Assembly and Installation	Inspection
<p>One 4" PVC pipe, 10' (use recycled if possible)</p>  <p>One 4" PVC cap</p>  <p>wood or plastic plug to fit inside diameter of pipe</p>  <p>One 4" PVC coupling</p>  <p>PVC cement</p>  <p>petroleum jelly</p>  <p>duct tape</p>  <p>wood shavings</p>  <p>One metal T-post, 6'</p>  	 <p>12 1/4" (.31 m)</p>  <p>72 1/4" (1.84 m)</p>  <p>36 1/4" (.92 m)</p>	 <p>Lubricate inside rim with petroleum jelly. * See note below.</p> <p>Drill 1 1/8" (2.8 cm) hole, 1 5/8" from top.</p> <p>Insert wood or plastic plug into end of pipe section, and cement or screw into place.</p> <p>Connect coupling and pipe sections with PVC cement.</p> <p>* Drill 1/4" ventilation holes (4) just below cap and above entrance hole.</p> <p>After cement is dry, lubricate where indicated, add wood shavings to nest cavity and slide cap onto upper assembly.</p> <p>Lubricate inside rim with petroleum jelly.</p>  <p>Pound T-post into ground. Attach bottom pipe section with duct tape.</p>	 <p>Step 1 Lift upper assembly off lower pipe section. Rest it on something to keep debris out of the petroleum jelly.</p> <p>Step 2 Lift the cap off to view the nest cavity.</p>

The design for this nest tube was adapted by David Bonter and Caren Cooper from a model developed by Thomas Grubb and C.L. Bronson in Ohio in the 1990s, as mentioned in the Summer 2008 BirdScope, "Looking for the Perfect Fixer-Upper." In David and Caren's chickadee studies at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, nest tubes were filled with wood shavings—studies indicate that chickadees prefer cavities they excavate themselves.

Several long-term bluebird and chickadee monitors have had excellent return rates using PVC nest tubes. However, the manufacture of this widespread material is highly polluting, so we recommend building these nest tubes from used and scrap PVC when possible.