Why?
Hummingbirds need to visit 1,000 to 2,000 flowers per day to survive. With the rapid loss of open spaces in the Bay Area due to human development, it is critical for us to create “pocket habitat” to help sustain their need. In addition to planting CA native plants in containers or in your garden, you can help supplement their diet with a hummingbird feeder.

How?

**Step 1: Gather Supplies**

- Hole Punch
- Wire Cutters
- Scissors
- Red Nail Polish
- Old Insulated Wire or String (e.g. AC adapter)
- Small Jar with Lid (e.g. 250ml mason jar)

**Step 2: Poke Holes in Lid**

Use hole punch to poke holes in lid.

If using a jar lid that has a thick rim like a baby food jar, you can use a nail and hammer to poke holes in the lid. Make sure to sand down or coat any sharp edges with hot glue or nail polish.

**Step 3: Add Some Red**

Use bright red nail polish to decorate lid. Get creative with the nail polish and create flowers or another pattern - hummingbirds are attracted to the color not the shapes. You can also use red beads, marbles, or glass pebbles to decorate your jar.

Don’t forget to put down some scratch paper before painting and let the nail polish dry before touching the lid.
**Step 4: Create Jar Holder**
Tie the wire or string into a loop with a sturdy knot. If using wire, make sure to cut off the plug and charger ends with a wire cutter. Tie cord to hold jar securely (see a-e).

The wire or string should be at least ten times the height plus diameter of the jar.

![Diagram of wire or string looped around a jar](image)

**Step 5: Fill with Nectar and Hang**
Dissolve one part sugar in four parts boiling water. Let cool and fill your feeder. Screw on lid and hang outside.

DO NOT use honey, fake sugars, or red dye in your nectar mix.

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**California Native Plants for Hummingbirds**

**Shrubs & Subshrubs**
- Bush Snapdragon, *Galvezia speciosa*
- Currant, *Ribes* spp.
- Indian Mallow, *Abutilon palmeri*
- Monkeyflower, *Diplacus/Mimulus* spp.
- Woolly Blue-Curls, *Trichostema lanatum*

**Perennials**
- Columbine, *Aquilegia* spp.
- Penstemon, *Penstemon* spp.
- Sage, *Salvia* spp.

**Trees**
- Western Redbud, *Cercis occidentalis*
- Western Sycamore, *Platanus racemosa*

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**Resources**
- [Pollinator.org](http://pollinator.org)
- [Audubon.org](http://audubon.org)
- [Calscape.org](http://calscape.org)

- [Attracting Native Pollinators, The Xerces Society](http://xerces.org)
- [California Native Plants for the Garden, Carol Bornstein, David Fross, & Bart O’Brien](http://calnatives.com)
- [Bringing Nature Home, Douglas W. Tallamy](http://naturehome.org)