

Important: Wildlife cameras are usefully fitted with an inconspicuous protective lens cap. Remember to remove the lens cap or you may suspect a fault with cables, devices, the computer, the software, wild internet conspiracy theories or book a couch appointment for yourself, before the penny finally drops.

All wildlife cameras used in this context have to be hard-wired to supply DC power, even if the camera is a wireless device, transmitting signal by Wi-Fi. I have not used Wi-Fi as I prefer to have a conduit to my wildlife cameras anyway.

Cables are obtainable in various lengths with fitted RCA and (now) BNC plugs at both ends. Very handy as the camera or cable can then more easily be swapped if necessary.

The camera kits I currently stock include the HD (1080p) camera and is called the NCTV2A which supports audio (not all cameras / kits do).



The NCTV2A kit includes an RCA to HDMI upscaler (analogue to digital converter). In the past an adaptor RCA to SCART was included. Supplied leads also now include a BNC (twist and turn) connector and an RCA to BNC adaptor.

You have the choice to connect the camera directly to the TV using RCA plugs or with the supplied HDMI lead via the upscaler or directly to a DVR as used by security cameras to permanently record video (BNC). The NCTV2A manual is merged below as is the QUICK START GUIDE.

Traditionally I have always used a video grabber (RCA analogue plugs) as illustrated below. I still do actually. That suits me better. Supporting multiple cameras, old and new, they are plugged into a handy splitter with push button switches. Neat and tidy. That grabber includes a USB 2 lead to connect to the computer. Video grabber not supplied with the NCTV2A kit.



Grabbers can be purchased as accessories though they are readily available online a lot cheaper.

I have never had a problem with any grabber purchased online. A word of warning however. Those purchased online usually include bundled disk software which I would not install on any of my computers. Some versions can be highly suspect one way or another with no safe way to distinguish between them.

There is no need to take a risk. Far superior is available free of charge (NCH) to non-commercial users.

I always provide a grabber with any complete Hedgehog House kit I supply. Full kits supplied by me only in rare instances, never commercially. I use different capture devices and dedicated capture software for some commercial applications I am involved with but at home I only use NCH capture software. I use the same NCH software for all video production.

Given the quality, stability and reliability I bought the NCH home-edition quickly (lifetime license) and used that for a time before migrating to the professional-edition in support of other video needs (lifetime license, not subscription). Professional for example includes multiple audio track support and other features.

Download the home-edition here: <https://www.nchsoftware.com/videoPad/index.html> *direct from the NCH company* (safer). Look for the free non-commercial link on that page. This software has always been reliable and rock solid across all platforms I have ever used it on including Windows 7 Pro and Windows 10 Pro.

NCH may seem daunting to anyone completely new to this kind of software because it is a fully-featured, powerful and professional application. There are tutorials available online.

I also have installed <http://www.icode.co.uk/icatcher/registration/registrationwt.html> which is available on free trial for 21 days. This software can be set to record video and/or take still images when motion is automatically detected in the Hedgehog House. It will then sound an alert on your PC so you can access the software. The software can also be set to pop-up automatically when the alarm is raised (see Note 1).

This can of course be triggered by insects or spider webs depending on how the sensitivity is set. I have found it useful when I am working at the PC anyway and once captured a Woodmouse which visited. I would not otherwise have known a Woodmouse had visited.

Smaller mammals will not permanently occupy a Hedgehog House with such a large entrance, given the risk from predators. Nothing to stop you covering the entrance with plywood and providing two small diameter holes spaced apart. They could admit a mouse-sized mammal but deny access to potential predators.

Hedgehogs like to travel about in season, moving from one camp site to another. If one is in residence it will invariably be resting, buried in leaves. I check my Hedgehog cameras night and morning (viewed in i-Catcher), which takes only one click of the mouse. Cameras connected to a push-button RCA splitter for speed.

Capturing Hedgehog video at the right moment simply involves hitting the record button well before dusk and letting the software run until later, when the Hedgehog has gone foraging. You can then save and edit software at your leisure to crop out extraneous video.

Notes

1. I-Catcher is one of the few computer applications I permit in my computer start-up sequence. It is therefore active and working immediately I boot up. It also immediately minimises in the system tray but will pop-up instantly if an alarm condition occurs. At the same time the application starts to video depending on the parameters set.
2. If anyone is aware of any alternative camera and/or hardware deals please let me know then that information can be shared.

Reviewed and updated: 28.04.2024

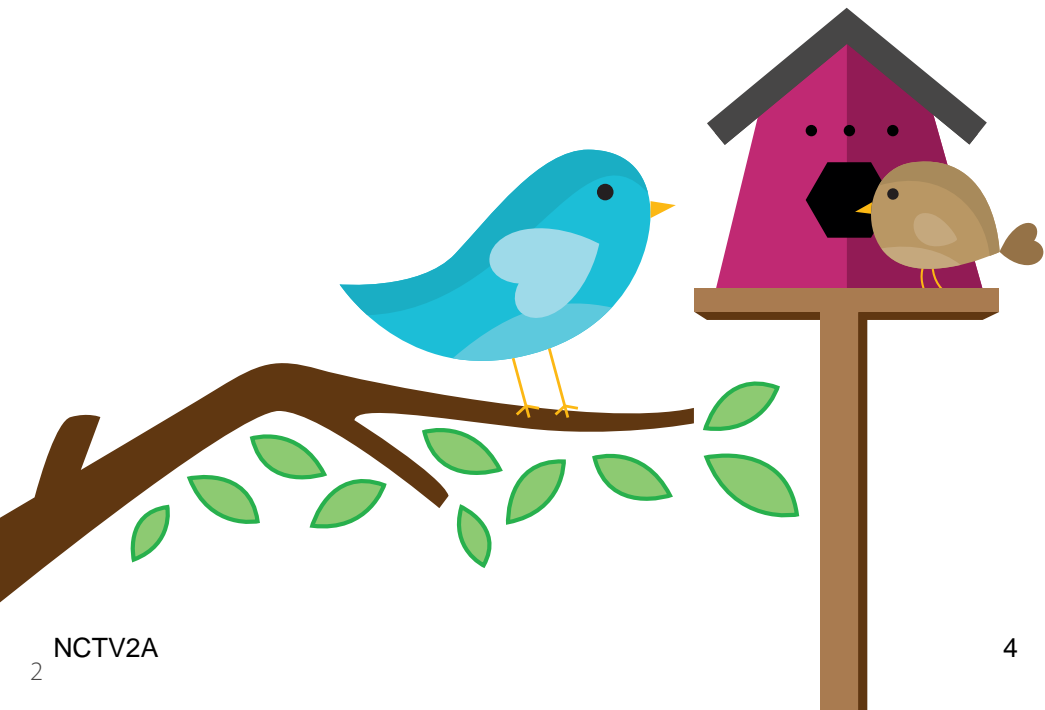


HD Wired Bird Box Camera Kit Quick Start Guide

NCTV2A/NCTV2WP/NCTV8A



Please read me before you start!



Contents

1. Camera setup
2. Connect to your TV
3. Physical installation
4. Accessories
5. Troubleshooting



Watch our setup videos

Don't know where to start?
Watch our setup videos online.
🖱️ green-feathers.co.uk/help

Congratulations! You are now the proud owner of a Green Feathers wildlife camera. For years we have been a leading provider of wildlife cameras and our bird box cameras are a number one choice for those wanting to watch wildlife in their very own garden from the comfort of the sofa.

Please take a couple of minutes to have a read through this booklet before you get started. Not only are there some helpful hints and tips, but we also have some guidelines to help you plan the installation of your camera.

With just a bit of time, a cup of tea and a friend you'll be up-and-running in no time. We hope you enjoy your camera!

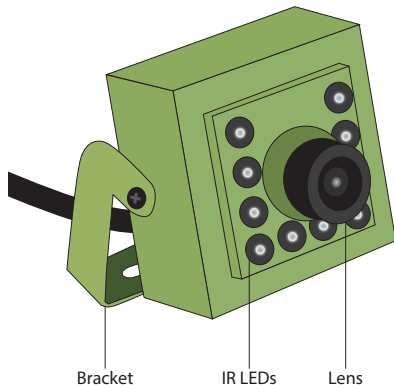
1. Camera Setup

Before installing the camera in your nest box, **wire it up inside the house first** to make sure everything is working as it should.

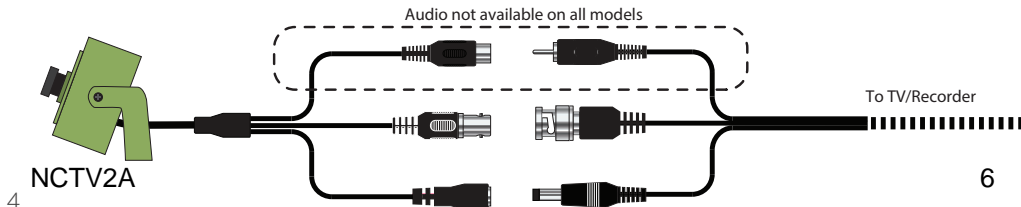
First, **remove the lens cap.**

Take your 3-way cable and plug it into the camera's trailing cable. Please note that not all camera models have audio.

To power up, **plug in the mains power supply at the other end of the cable.**



i The camera does not emit a visible glow, even when the night vision is active.



2. Connect to your TV

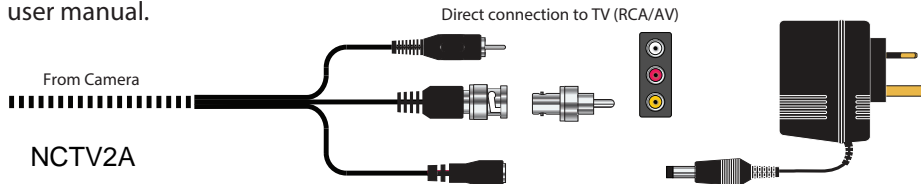
Make sure you can get an image on your TV before mounting the camera into position. Please read through the following setup options.

A. Direct Connection – SD Viewing

If your TV has RCA (phono) connections, you can connect the AV cable directly to your TV using the provided adaptor for standard definition viewing.

Simply plug in the video plug into the yellow input and the audio plug into the white or red input on your TV.

Select the correct source on your TV. This is often called 'AV1' or similar. Consult your TV user manual.

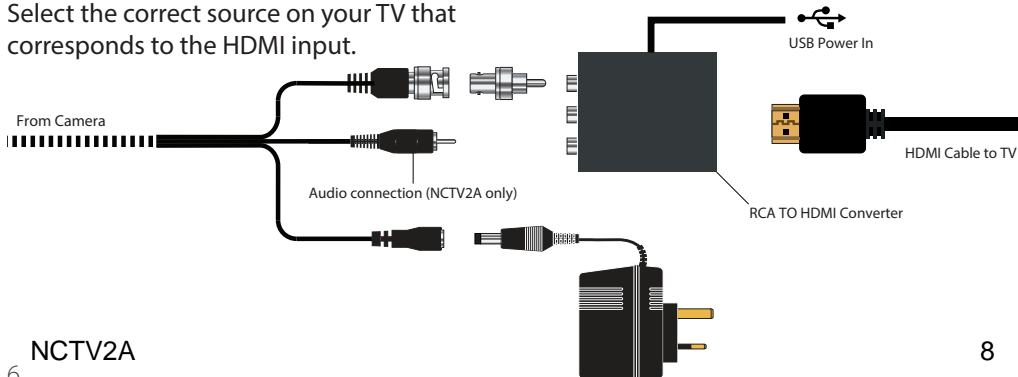


B. Connection via HDMI Upscaler

An RCA to HDMI upscaler enables you to watch upscaled images straight to your TV via an HDMI connection.

Simply plug the cable with adaptor into the converter and run the HDMI cable between the converter and your TV or monitor (see diagram below).

Select the correct source on your TV that corresponds to the HDMI input.



C. Connection via HDMI – Full HD Viewing

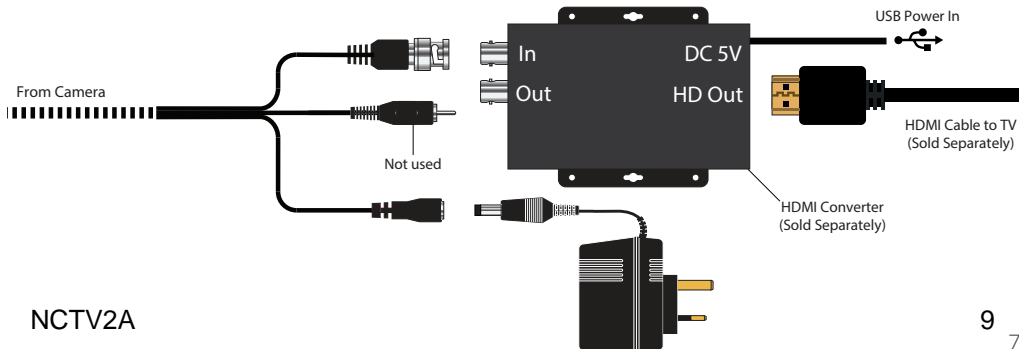
Our HDMI converter allows you to watch true 1080p HD images straight from your TV. **Plug the twist-fit connector** into the converter and run an HDMI cable between the converter and your TV or monitor.

You will need to change the camera mode to TVI (see page 9).

Select the correct source on your TV that corresponds to the HDMI input.

Need a converter?

 Search on our website for **GTTV2HDMI**



D. Use with DVR Recorders

Enthusiasts can use this camera with HD DVRs using the **BNC connection** for recording.

Connect the twist-fit connector into an available channel on the rear of your recorder.

Set the camera to the compatible mode for your recorder (see opposite).

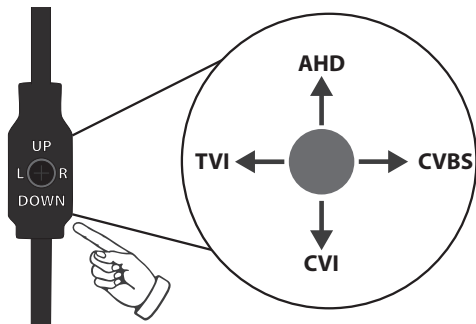
How to Set Camera Mode

This camera is compatible with different video technology modes.

The camera is set by default to CVBS.[†]

i If you are using our Full HD HDMI converter, you will need to **set the camera to TVI** to get the best experience.

To change the camera mode, power up the camera and press and hold the switch found on the camera cable in the direction you desire for 5 seconds.



NCTV2A

[†]Model NCTV8A is set to TVI by default.

3. Physical Installation

Now you are ready to mount the camera into your nest box.

What you will need

- ✓ Camera with bracket (included)
- ✓ 5M screw (included)
- ✓ Nest box (optional)
- ✓ Screwdriver
- ✓ Mains power outlet

You may also need

- ✓ Drill
- ✓ Electrical tape
- ✓ Cable fasteners
- ✓ Power extension cable

Focussing your camera lens

Place a small bird-sized object in your bird box. You can gently twist the camera's lens to adjust the focal distance of the camera: clockwise to focus on objects that are further away or anti-clockwise to focus on closer objects. Monitor the results on your TV/monitor until you are satisfied.

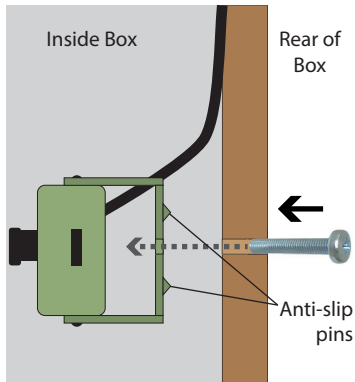
Mount the Camera in Nest Box

A. Installing in one of our bird boxes:

Pass the 5M screw provided through the pre-drilled hole in the back of the box, screwing into the nut on the easy mount bracket.

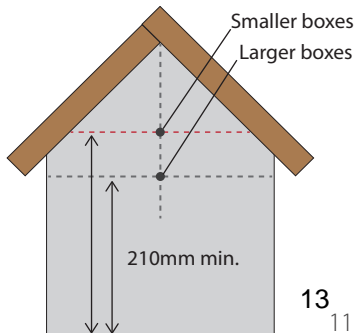
Our innovative anti-slip bracket design will hold the camera in place against the wood.

There is a gap in the eaves of the box through which to pass your cables.



B. If you do not have one of our bird boxes:

Following the diagram (right), drill a 6mm hole at or above 210mm from the base of your box. Then follow the **A** instructions above.



✓ Make sure you are happy with the angle of the camera by checking the image on the TV and making any adjustments if need be.

Wired Connection Tips

Plan beforehand where you plan to lay your cable from your bird box to your viewing device. Are you going to bury your cable and where is the entry point to your house going to be? Generally it is best to drill a single hole through your outer wall but if you have wooden window frames a small hole through the corner of the frame may be a better idea.

If you're burying the cable running through your garden then it is a good idea to protect it from the weather and burrowing animals. A simple way to do this is with some spare hose pipe. Simply run your cable through the hose, tape over the ends and bury. Some extra electrical tape over cable joints also helps keep water out.

If drilling a hole through the side of your house isn't an option then you can bury a shorter cable in the garden up to a window and keep a coiled cable inside that can be connected up when you want to view your nestbox. Taping a plastic bag over the connector of the outdoor cable should help to keep the rain off.

4. Accessories

Now it's time to install your accessories (sold separately).

Boost the Light in your Nest Box

Your camera's night vision helps to improve the picture at night but you can also benefit from adding an extra light source to improve daytime images. Use one of our energy-efficient LED lamps to help with this.

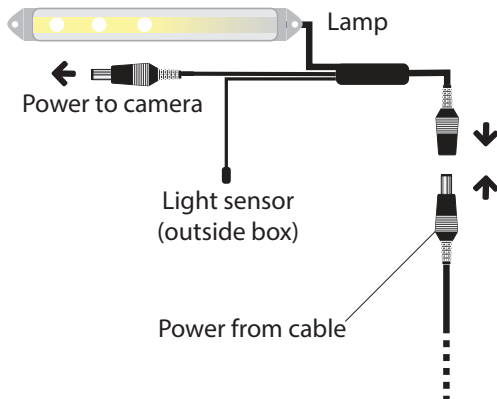
Our daylight lamps automatically switch off at night to ensure the birds are not disturbed and get a good night's sleep. They provide extra light during the day to boost your camera image's vibrancy and exposure.

When using this camera kit you can power the lamp using the camera's power supply fed from the cable.

Need a Daylight LED Lamp?



NCTV2A Search on our website for **BBLED3**.



5. Troubleshooting

Having trouble? Here are some answers.

I'm not seeing an image on my TV

1. Is the power supply on?

Make sure the camera's power supply is properly connected to a mains outlet.

2. Is the camera receiving power?

During operation the camera should feel warm to the touch.

Another way to check the camera is receiving power is to take the camera into a very dark space so that the night vision activates. Point a smartphone or digital camera at the front of the camera. If it is operating correctly, the camera should see a red glow from the IR LEDs.

3. Check wired connections

Make sure there are no loose connections at all points of connection.

4. Check TV source

Choose the correct source on your television. For direct connections it will be something like 'AV1' or 'EXT1' or if you are using our HDMI converter then it will be on the corresponding HDMI channel (e.g. 'HDMI1').

5. Is the HDMI converter powered up?

If you are using our HDMI converter, make sure it is powered up by using the power supply provided.

Need more help?

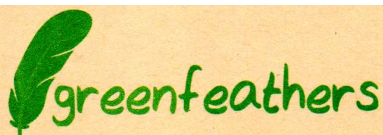
If you require more assistance setting up your bird box camera or you need further support then please **head to our Help website** where you'll be able to find all our support guides and videos.

Find more help online.

 green-feathers.co.uk/help

For more help visit:
green-feathers.co.uk/help





Quick Start Guide

1080p Full HD Bird Box Camera – Straight to your TV

Another first for Green Feathers! We have worked closely with our geeky CCTV friends at our sister company to bring you this fantastic Full HD bird box camera. We are proud to bring you the best technology to your garden and this camera is no different. It boasts the latest 4-in-1 technology, which means you can have fantastic high definition images on your TV, when using our HDMI HD converter.

Unlike other cameras on the market, this camera features Full High Definition video at 1080p. It uses the latest ultra-low light imaging technology and when coupled with one of our bird box daylight lamps you will achieve the best crystal-clear daytime colour images.

There are different ways to set up your camera. This quick start guide will help you get the best from your new bit of kit.

Recommended Accessories

1080p HD HDMI converter (Product code: GTTV2HDMI)

SD HDMI converter (Product code: RCATOHDMI)

SD USB Video Capture Device (Product code: USBCAP)

Options for watching

SD Viewing on TV

If you are viewing by plugging in directly to a TV's AV inputs or using an SD adaptor, the camera is preset to **CVBS** mode so you do not need to change any camera settings. This will reduce the definition so it will play straight through the TV without a converter or decoder.

HD Viewing using HDMI Converter

With our HDMI converter it will allow you to watch true 1080p HD images straight from your TV. Simply plug the camera into the converter and run an HDMI cable between the converter and your TV or monitor. You will need to change the camera mode to **TVI**.

Viewing and Recording Multiple cameras through a DVR

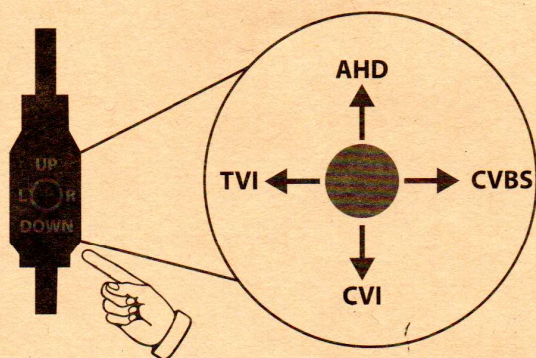
For advanced enthusiasts

This camera provides a low-cost way to run multiple HD cameras. Using modern CCTV DVR recorders, you can watch and record 4, 8, 16 or 32 cameras at a time – even remotely on your phone or PC anywhere in the world. Set the camera mode to whatever is compatible with your recorder. We recommend **TVI**, if possible. If you need help and advice building a multi-camera solution please contact us.

How to Set Camera Mode

This camera is compatible with four major technologies: HD-TVI, AHD, HD-CVI and CVBS (SD analogue). The camera is **set by default to CVBS**.

If you are using the camera with a HD-TVI recorder or our HDMI converter, you will need to set the camera to **TVI** to get the best experience.



To change the camera mode, power up the camera and press and hold the switch found on the camera cable in the direction you desire for 5 seconds.

Technical Specification

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Sensor | 1/2.8" NVP2441+IMX307 |
| Format | PAL/NTSC |
| Effective Pixel | 1920×1080 FPS: 1080p @ 25fp |
| Illumination | 0.0001 Lux (F1.2, AGC ON), 0 Lux with IR |
| Shutter | Auto |
| D/N Mode | EXT (Default) /AUTO/COLOR/B/W |
| Synchronous | Internal |
| Video Output | AHD/TVI/CVI/CVBS 4-in-1 switch |
| Exposure | Brightness / Exposure Mode / Gain |
| White Balance | ATW/MWB |
| D/N Mode | Infrared/Internal Auto/Color/B&W |
| Video Setting | Contrast/Sharpness/Color/GAIN/DNR/Format/WDR |
| Language | CHN1/ESPAÑOL/CHN2/ITALIANO/ENGLISH |
| Operating Temperature | -20°C to 60°C |
| Working Humidity | < 90% |
| Power | DC 12V 1A |
| Weight | 0.2kg |

Need help?

Visit our help site online: help.green-feathers.co.uk