

## Drystone wall

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A drystone wall creates a shelter place for insect and lizards. These walls are built exclusively of natural stone.

Small gaps between bigger stones can be filled with smaller ones and we can support slopping stones to make them upright. Bigger and wider walls have a small gap in between the outer stones and at the end we fill them up with dirt, small stones and gravel. Often flat stones are put on top to create a straight surface.

### *Background:*

Drystone walls are mostly found in Ireland and the Mediterranean region. They are built with one of the oldest building techniques. They are made to support slopes, differentiate cow pastures. Nowadays they are also used for decoration purpose.

### *Techniques:*

Mostly rectangular flat stones are used, which are slightly prepared and easy to deal with. But drystone walls can be built out of every type of stone. In the past they used big, portable stones from the region, which were easy to get there. They supported walls or put wooden plates on top and sat on it. Also, stairs can be built like that. Plants are likely to grow through the stones and create a big variety. If we fill those walls with soil we can plant different plants in there to support the insects with food and offer them shelter.