

Ringtail Drey Construction

What you will need

- Wire baskets** 2 x 30cm with coco fibre liners
Wire chains that are supplied with the baskets
Cable Ties to hold the drey together (up to 20 required)

Tools

- Screwdriver** (or anything sharp) to make a small hole in the coconut liner
Pliers to help pull the cable ties tight (optional)
Scissors to cut the liner for entry and exit holes and cut cable ties
Tin Snips to cut metal wires on drey



Tools needed to make a ringtail drey.

Making the Drey

Step 1 - Joining the coco liner to the wire basket

- Join the coco liner to the basket at a minimum of every 4 wires.
- Poke a hole in the liner with a screwdriver and place a cable tie around both wires and the liner to join together. Ensure you also do the rim of the basket. Pull the cable tie tight with use of the pliers.
- The more cable ties the better the overall life of the drey.
- Continue this on the other half of the drey.



Step 1: Join the liner to the wire basket.

Step 2 - Make an entry/exit hole

- Find the wire which is closest to the join of the basket (along the rim).
- Cut this wire off completely. This makes the entry hole.
- Cut off a second wire at the rear of the basket for the exit.



Step 2: Cut off a wire for an entry hole.

Step 3 - Cutting the liner (entry & exit hole)

Entry: Cut the liner as shown to make the entry hole. Don't cut off the flap of liner, just cable tie this to the wire basket for extra strength.

Exit: Do a single cut only, the ringtails will do the rest! This is their escape route if needed.



Step 3: Cut a flap in the liner for the entry hole.

Step 4 - Join baskets together

- Place both completed drey halves together. Cable tie the wire rims together (including the liner) at minimum every 4 wires.

Step 5 - Add wires

- Reattach the wire chain hanger to the top basket only. The other wire chain can be used later to secure the drey in the tree.



Step 5. Reattach the wire chain on completed drey (cable ties here not yet cut off). Photos by B.Hillhouse

Step 6—Placement of drey in a tree

- Place the completed drey into a tree at least 3 meters off the ground, facing north/north east direction.
- A forked branch is recommended so the ringtail can easily crawl into and out of the drey.
- Use leaves/twigs from the tree to help camouflage the drey from predators including inquisitive humans!



Step 4: Join the two baskets together.



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