

# Ringtail Drey Construction

## What you will need:

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

## Tools:

- Screwdriver (or a skewer) to make a small hole in the coconut liner to pass the cable ties through (careful you don't stab your hand pushing it through!)
- 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



## Making the Drey:

### Step 1 - Join 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 skewer or 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. NB: Do not use white cable ties as these glow at night time.
- Continue this on the other half of the drey.



Step 1: Join the liner to the wire basket.



### Step 2 - Make an entry and 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 - Cut the liner for the entry and exit hole

Entry: Cut the liner as shown to make the entry hole (roughly 80mm x 80mm). Don't cut off the flap of liner, just cable tie this to the top of the opening of the wire basket for extra strength. This makes a 'porch' for extra protection from rain.

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



Step 3: Cut a flap & fold upwards for the entrance hole.



Step 4: Cut a single slit in the liner for the exit hole on the other side.

### Step 4 - Join baskets together

Place both completed drey halves together. **IMPORTANT:** Make sure the top of the liner overlaps the bottom liner so that rain will not run into the basket. Cable tie the wire rims together (including the liner) at minimum every 4 wires. Cut the excess cable ties off.

### Step 5 - Re-attach hanging wires

Re-attach 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 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!

