

*May the bird of paradise fly up your nose!*

*Creative  
Carvings  
by  
Monte*



**Creative Carvings by Monte**  
**Home of Bird Buddy's**  
*Monte & Linda Spinker, Owners*

### **Types of birds our houses attract!**

Typical birds that will be attracted to our houses are wrens, chickadees, nuthatch and finches. There is also a chance you may attract bluebirds.

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## **Bird Buddy's**

Throughout the Germanic world, there is a belief in house-ghosts. These wights are called by many different names -- nissen in Denmark, tomten in Sweden, tussen in Norway, kobolds in Germany, among others -- but they all seem to be of the same sort.

The chief role of these kobolds is to take care of the house and its surrounding land. In rural households, they make sure bread rises, the cream turns to butter in the churn, the cows are well fed, and the fieldwork is successful. Today, most of them have different ways of looking after their families they follow. House-ghosts make sure your keys and glasses are where you can find them, that the house wiring is safe, and generally that things go as they ought. They help with cleaning and garden work, they are annoyed with lazy people, but make things easier for the hard worker.

The house-ghost is particularly responsible for bringing good luck to the household, sometimes by stealing it from other households. These house-ghosts work tremendously hard as long as they are appreciated, and ask little in return -- a plate of porridge and a glass of beer every Thursday, with a share of feast food on holy days, will usually keep them very happy indeed! They are also fond of whole milk, though not skimmed, which will make them most unhappy because they think you are stingy with them. House-ghosts do not understand about cholesterol.

It is a German custom to have carved kobold-figures in one's home. Such a figure will serve as a dwelling place for the house-ghost, before which his food and drink may be placed. If you have no house-ghost, such a figure like a Bird Buddy birdhouse, could be well used as the focus for a rite to call one to you. He is particularly responsible for bringing good luck to the household and keeping evil spirits away.

### **German Translation: Auf Deutsch:**

Deutsche Tradition oder Sitte: Eine geschnitzte oder gemalte Abbildung eines Kobold im Haus oder Garten zu haben. Diese Abbildungen dienen als Wohnungen für Hausgeister, vor die Nahrung und Getränke gestellt werden können. Die Hauptrolle des Hausgeistes ist das Haus und Land zu betreuen. Er ist besonders verantwortlich dem Haushalt Glück zu bringen und böse Geister fernzuhalten.

### **English Translation: German tradition or custom:**

To have a carved kobold-figure in one's home painted on a wall, or in the yard. These figures serve as dwelling places for house-ghosts, before which his food and drink could be placed. The chief role of the house-ghost is to take care of the house and lands. He is particularly responsible for bringing good luck to the household and keeping evil spirits away.

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### **Background History on Monte Spinker**

Artisan and Master Carver, Monte Spinker was born in West Dundee, Illinois. He moved to Texas in 1998 and now resides in the Cedar Creek Lake area. It is approximately 1 hour southeast of Dallas.

Monte has been woodcarving for approximately 16 years. He does numerous things, but the birdhouses have brought him the most recognition. He created these birdhouses in 1998 and copyrighted them in 1999. To this day, he is creating new faces.

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**Use and Care Tips:**

Monte Spinker is the Master Carver of these unique birdhouses. They will bring whimsy and character to your garden, plus they are functional, too. They are made to accommodate your small songbirds. Each house has a bottom clean out box.

Our birdhouses are made from cedar. Cedar is durable when used outside and will weather well. Cedar will gray with time. To deter the graying process, you may use a water sealant, like Thompson's. Keep in mind, though, when using products like this, the smell will deter the birds from building until the odor dissipates. So, if you plan to seal your birdhouse, you need to do it when it is not nesting time.

Keep in mind that all our birdhouses are carved with wood. Wood does have flaws from time to time. Each piece is made with love and given special attention to detail. We think of the flaws in wood as special characteristics of nature and try to bring them to life in our pieces.

So which house do the birds like the best? It seems like that choice is up to you!!! They seem to like whichever piece of "birdie architecture" you chose!

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**they enter through the nose!**

Handcrafted from Aromatic Red Cedar,  
it's the perfect nesting spot for small birds  
like wrens and chickadees ...

*May the bird of paradise fly up your nose!*



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