



Bat Conservation Trust Membership FAQs

What type of membership do you offer?

If you are aged 16 or over, you can subscribe to a Bat Conservation Trust (BCT) membership online for yourself and/or someone else.

Please take a look at the [different types of membership offered by BCT](#) and choose the membership that best suits you.

Can I buy membership if I am under 16?

If you are under 16 years of age, you must obtain the consent of a parent or guardian to subscribe to a BCT membership.

There are two ways for under 16's to join BCT:

- If you want to join along with one or more adults, please ask them to subscribe to a *Family membership*.
- If you want to join without an adult on the membership, please ask a parent or guardian to subscribe you to a *Young Batworkers' Club* membership on your behalf, either via the online joining process or by printing off and completing an application form and then posting it to BCT.

How can I pay for membership?

Join online and you can choose to subscribe by Direct Debit or by credit/debit card (we accept Visa, MasterCard and Maestro).

- *Direct Debit*
Paying by Direct Debit helps us reduce administration costs, ensuring that even more of your membership subscription can go directly towards bat conservation. Currently Direct Debit subscriptions are collected on an annual basis, although we hope soon to introduce monthly and quarterly payment options.
- *Credit/ Debit card*
If you pay by credit or debit card, the full annual payment will be charged to your card within a few days of completing this form.
- *Cheque / Postal Order*
You can also choose to subscribe via cheque or postal order by printing off and completing a [membership application form](#).

If you would like to pay by any other method, please contact our membership department on 020 7501 3626 or email members@bats.org.uk.

Is Bat Conservation Trust membership open to people outside the United Kingdom?

BCT membership is available to people living outside the UK. A £6 supplement is added to the standard membership subscription rates for members living outside the UK to cover additional postage costs.

Welcome Packs for new member will be dispatched as normal, but delivery times will vary depending upon the destination.



When will the members' packs arrive?

Every new BCT membership will receive a new member's Welcome Pack, which will arrive within three to four weeks of the application being received by BCT.

If you are joining as a new member yourself, the pack will be sent directly to you.

If you are giving membership as a gift, you will be offered the choice of having the Welcome Pack sent either to your address or directly to the new member(s).

Welcome Packs sent to international addresses will be despatched as above, but delivery dates will vary depending upon the destination.

Postage costs are included in the membership fee.

Can I join my local bat group at the same time as joining BCT?

Unfortunately not. There are over 100 volunteer-based bat groups across the UK, all working to protect and conserve bats. The groups vary greatly in terms of size, the way they operate and the activities they undertake. They also operate individual membership schemes, so it's not possible for a standard joining fee to be applied to all the groups.

However if you select your local bat group from the list detailed on the joining form, BCT will then contact the group on your behalf and request they get in touch with full details about how to get involved with bat conservation at a local level.

Can I Gift Aid my subscription?

If you're a UK tax payer, then yes you can – and bats would definitely appreciate it! Gift Aid doesn't cost you a penny and allow BCT to claim back around a quarter of your subscription in tax relief, enabling your money to go even further for bats. Check out our [Gift Aid FAQs](#) for further info and clarification regarding eligibility.

Can I buy or adopt a bat?

'Fraid not! All UK bats are protected by law, which means it's a criminal offence to deliberately capture or possess a bat. There can be exceptions to permit illegal activities relating to bats, such as caring for a bat solely for the purpose of restoring it to health and subsequent release, but to do so requires a specific licence. For more information on licensing and legislation applying to bats, please see our '[Bats and the Law](#)' page.

The Bat Conservation Trust works to ensure people and bats can live together in harmony, so one of the best ways to show your support for bats is to become a member of BCT. The support of our members really does make a huge difference to what we're able to achieve for bats.

Can I change my mind about membership?

You can cancel your membership at any time by contacting BCT, but we can only issue refunds if the membership is cancelled within 7 days of joining.

To cancel your membership, please call us on 0845 1300 228, email members@bats.org.uk, or write to Bat Conservation Trust (Membership), 15 Cloisters House, 8 Battersea Park Road, London, SW8 4BG.

The Bat Conservation Trust also reserves the right to refuse membership applications.



What will you do with my personal information?

Any information given by you to the BCT will be used solely for the purpose for which it was given, unless otherwise stated. Your personal details will be held by the BCT and will not be passed to any outside commercial or non-commercial organisations without your prior agreement.

What is the address finder?

To help ensure posted information arrives promptly, wherever possible we use addresses listed in Royal Mail's UK postal address file. We use details of postcode and house number (or name) to look up the address held by Royal Mail.

If you don't know the postcode, you live outside the UK, or you think that the Royal Mail list is incorrect, you can enter the address details manually.

Still have questions?

If your question is not answered here, please call our Membership team on 020 7501 3626 or email members@bats.org.uk.

Further details about the BCT membership scheme, including additional details on the terms of membership and rights of members, are available in BCT's [Memorandum and Articles of Association](#).