

# This hedge is undergoing important rejuvenation

Don't worry- they generally grow back surprisingly quickly

**Why?** Hedge rejuvenation is essential to the long-term survival of every hedge. No hedge can be trimmed forever, nor be left unmanaged forever, without seeing structural decline and eventual loss.

Hedgerows are best managed on a lifecycle, and at some point they all require rejuvenation through hedgelaying or coppicing. These practices may look dramatic, but are both ancient management techniques that reset hedge succession; hedges grow back thicker and healthier than before, creating a better wildlife habitat in the long run. Old hedges in the UK are living proof that they have been laid or coppiced at least once every generation.

**How?** Both coppicing and laying hedges involve making low cuts to the hedge stems to either partially, or completely sever them.

The ground-level regrowth from these low cuts result in a greater number of stems in the hedge, greater branching density and growth at the ground level providing essential shelter for wildlife such as hedgehogs and low nesting birds.

Crucially this base regrowth offers a hedge another lifespan.

Find out more at [www.ptes.org/hedgerows](http://www.ptes.org/hedgerows)



**Hedgelaying** – Stems are cut about 80% thorough at the base, bent over and bound. This creates a living fence, with regrowth from the stems and the base.



**Coppicing** – stems are cut right through near ground level. Coppiced hedges may need gaps planted up, (an opportunity to introduce more shrub species) and will need the young regrowth protected from browsing animals.

Hedgerows won't live forever unless they are periodically rejuvenated

Over 2070 species have been recorded using one single Devon hedge

Rejuvenation is a great time to establish new hedge trees

people's trust for endangered species