British Nature Guide

Let's look for Shieldbugs (Sheet one)

Some Shieldbugs are common and easy to find, but others are rare and quite difficult to find. If you see one, look, but please do not touch.



Woundwort Shieldbug (body only about 6mm long)



To find this small Shieldbug you first need to find its foodplant.

Look for Hedge Woundwort in overgrown verges next to hedges. The flowers are purple and grow on stalks. The leaves look a little like nettles, but they do not sting.

Go with an adult and take great care not to step on to the road while you are looking for these insects.

Look for them between May and September.



Hedge Woundwort plant



Green Shieldbug (body about 12mm long)



Bramble plant (also known as Blackberry bush)

Green Shieldbug

This Shieldbug is quite easy to find on sunny days. It can be found basking in the sunshine on the leaves of quite a few different plants including Brambles. These can be prickly so don't touch them.

Look for Brambles in overgrown areas in parks and gardens. The flowers are white and the fruit are commonly known as blackberries.

Go with an adult and take not to get prickled while you are looking for these insects.

Look for them between April and September.