

Get the best out of your compost

Why make Compost?



- Recycle food and garden waste
- into a nutritious soil conditioner
- Compost helps retain moisture in your garden soil
- Delivers valuable nutrients to the root of your plants
- Reduced your household environmental impact
- It's fun and doesn't cost the earth

How does composting work?

- Compost is made when all the micro-organisms in the ground feed on any plant, animal tissue or residues and break it down into smaller and smaller pieces.
- When the waste is fully broken down it forms compost – a dark, soil-like material with a pleasant earthy smell.
- To make rich compost it will take around 6-8 weeks if the perfect environment is maintained.
- Providing air, water and food that micro-organisms need to rapidly multiply and quickly break down organic waste will produce great compost.

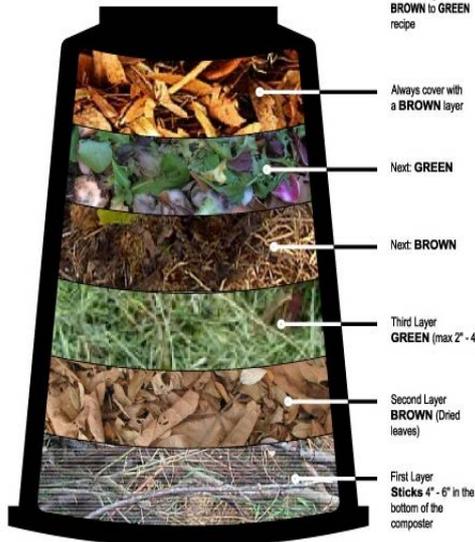
Five easy steps of Composting



- Choose an accessible, sunny position
- Add half green (nitrogen rich) and half brown (carbon rich) ingredients
- Add a handful of soil or compost
- Aerate every two days
- Add 1 teaspoon on compost conditioner every week

What can I put in my compost bin?

A COMPOST RECIPE TO FEED YOUR SOIL.



KEEP MOIST: As wet as a wrung out sponge.

AERATE: Air helps to speed up decomposition. Aeration should be done throughout the entire composting process.

KEEP COVERED: Use a compost lid, cardboard or canvas over top of your pile.

Green (nitrogen) material

- Fruit scraps
- Vegetable scraps
- Coffee grounds
- Hair
- Lawn clippings
- Tea bags
- Manure(horse, cow, pig, sheep, goat, chicken)

Brown (Carbon) material

- Shredded cardboard and paper
- Dryer lint
- Egg shells
- Untreated Sawdust and wood shavings
- Straw and sugarcane mulch

Avoid

- Coal or charcoal ash
- Cat droppings and litter
- Dog droppings
- Diseased plants
- Fish scraps
- Meat, fat, grease, oils, bones
- Lime
- Weeds (gone to seed)



Using the Aerator tool supplied

- Aerate every two days

Add compost conditioner - a teaspoon weekly will:

- Reducing acidity and balances pH levels
- Preserves essential nutrients
- Helps to reduce odour and pest infestation

Composting - Public safety information

Compost is made from organic materials and contains living micro-organisms, including bacteria, fungi and protozoa. This product may also contain mineral and fertiliser additives.

Risk

Inhalation of dust and/or liquid mists may irritate, inflame or sensitise the nose, throat and lungs. This may result in illnesses ranging from hay fever or asthma to pneumonia (eg. Legionnaire's disease) or pneumonia-like illnesses. Direct contact with this material or its dust and/or liquid mists (bioaerosols) may cause skin irritation (dermatitis), and skin or eye infection or irritation. People particularly at risk are those suffering from asthma or allergies and those whose immune defence systems are compromised.

Safety

- Avoid contact with eyes and skin.
- Avoid breathing dust and/or liquid mists (bioaerosols).
- Wear suitable protective clothing and standard duty gloves (AS/NZS 2161.2).
- If exposed to dust and/or liquid mists, also wear dust resistant eye protection (AS/NZS 1336) and particulate respirator (AS/NZS 1715 and AS/NZS 1716).
- Wash thoroughly immediately after handling.
- Wash work clothes regularly.
- Clean up by wet sweeping or vacuuming.
- Store this product in a cool location.

First Aid

- First, irrigate eyes with plenty of water for 10 minutes.
- Wash skin with soap and water.
- Seek medical attention for any persistent skin, eye or respiratory symptoms.