

# Composting Made Easy!



Vegetable waste >>>> 4 months later >>>> compost

## What is composting and why do it?

Composting speeds up the action of insects and other small organisms that break down waste into valuable fertiliser to reuse in the garden. It also cuts transport of waste, saves money and reduces carbon emissions.

## What do I compost?

Balance your compost – mix 1 part ‘browns’ to 1 part ‘greens’. If your compost gets too wet and slimy, add more ‘browns’. If it’s too dry, add more ‘greens’. Simple!

### Browns - include

Dead leaves  
Cardboard, ripped up  
Straw  
Paper, scrunched up  
Egg boxes  
Packaging, crumpled up

### Greens - include

Grass Clippings  
Annual weeds  
Carrot tops  
Spent cut flowers  
Raw fruit and veg  
Fresh plants

## How do I Start?

You can purchase composting units from local garden centres. Or you can use car tyres or waste wood such as old pallets and wire netting to make your own. Always start with branches on the bottom to allow air circulation and position your heap in a warm, sunny, and handy place – sunshine helps the composting work well.

## Top Tips for Composting

- ❖ **DO** compost fruit and vegetable peel, raw fruit and veg waste, annual weeds and paper, cardboard and straw as stated overleaf
- ❖ **DON'T** compost dog or cat waste, perennial weeds, weed seed heads, high protein food such as meat (which may attract vermin)
- ❖ Use secateurs to chop up plants and to chop off seed heads and roots (these can go to the council green waste collection bins).
- ❖ Save veg. waste in a caddy kept in the kitchen and empty it regularly into your compost bin with some scrunched up paper
- ❖ Wear gloves and wash your hands after working with compost.
- ❖ Welcome the insects that will come to break down the materials.



*learn - grow - harvest - share -  
cook - compost*



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