

# - Guide to Composting -

## WHAT is Compost and WHY is it important?

Over time organic matter breaks down into the soil. Heat + Water + Air + Time + Microorganisms help to break down this green waste and turn it into compost. This compost can be used to feed our plants and help them grow and stay healthy.

Compost also helps reduce our waste going to landfills. When our green waste goes to landfills it struggles to break down properly and instead can release the greenhouse gas, methane into the air. The moisture from our green waste can also mix with other rubbish in the landfill, which releases harmful chemicals into our land and water.

Composting our green waste in our backyard can therefore help us reduce air, land and water pollution!

## - You will need -



## HOW to Compost

1. Use a bin or wooden box with a hole in the bottom. Place the bin in your backyard directly on soil, and not a hard surface.
2. Fill your compost bin up with a mixture of green and brown waste.
3. Add a few spade's worth of soil to start off.
4. Water well to keep the mix moist.
5. Cover with lid to shelter compost and keep heat in. Keep adding to bin over time, making sure to dig and turn over the compost every now and again.
6. Once the bin looks full, leave to rot down for 3-4 months. After which give it another good turn over and leave to rot down some more.
7. Your compost is ready to use once the bottom is dark brown in colour and a crumbly texture!



## x Don't Add



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## Guide to Composting Sources:

- Information sourced from the article “Gardening Guides” on BBC, [www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk).
- Information sourced from the article by Chris McLaughlin “Guide to Home Composting” on Fix. Published Jan 19th 2017, [www.fix.com](http://www.fix.com).
- Information sourced from the article by Jessi Devenyns “How to Compost at Home: A Beginner's Guide to DIY Fertilizer” on Wide Open Eat. Published Aug 6th 2019, [www.wideopeneats.com](http://www.wideopeneats.com).