

# Super Easy Home Made Compost Recipe



Compost is a great way of turning unwanted kitchen leftovers and garden waste from a problem into a fun project for all ages. Compost acts as a super soil conditioner which is great for growing things from flowers to your very own yummy food!

## Ingredients

What goes In	What stays Out
All fruit peels and leftovers (uncooked)	All meats
Egg Shells ( washed out)	All fish
Garden clippings	Cheese and other dairy products
Grass	Animal Manure from non vegetarian animals ( Dogs, Cats, Pigs)
Animal manure (horses, hen, rabbits, gerbils, hamsters - must be vegetarians)	Tin cans
Citrus Fruit ( in moderation)	Glass
Newspapers ( torn up)	Plastic of any kind
Cardboard ( torn up)	Breads
Tissue	
Wood/ twigs/ sticks (broken into small pieces)	
Leaves	
All vegetable peels and leftovers	
Potatoes ( uncooked peels and tubers)	
Water	

When in Doubt just Leave it Out!!

## What you'll need:

Any container can be used for composting from old tyres to wooden crates. Compost bins can be bought at many garden and home centres. Many of the councils provide them at cost price also!

## What to do:

Avoid placing the bin far away in a corner of the garden. Vermin travel around wall edges and do not like open spaces. Try to find a nice open place which is easy to get to, even in bad weather. The easier it is to get to the easier composting will be.

Having picked a container and location it is time to get composting. Placing some fine chicken wire in the ground below the compost bin can act as a great way of keeping vermin out. So if you can, it is good to do this! It is best to remove any grass from under the bin so you can see the soil. This makes it easy for insects and bacteria from the soil to come and live in the bin. Starting the bin off by having a base of woody sticks is often best. Another great start to the bin is using an accelerator such as horse manure. The more air in the bin the quicker the compost will be ready. Try to keep the compost turned or use a pipe with lots of holes in the centre of the bin to let air circulate!

When you have collected some of the ingredients you can simply pop them in! If you used an air pipe fill around it! This can be done at the end of each day or week. Make sure to have a good mixture of ingredients. A good rule to use is to have mix equal amounts of 'green' and 'brown' materials. Different recipes make different composts! But don't worry all composts are great for the garden and I am sure all the creatures in the garden will find it really delicious!

**Examples of Green Materials:** Grass cuttings, Garden plants, Weeds (dandelion, chicweed, clover, etc.), Potted plants, Cut flowers, House plants, Vegetative kitchen scraps, such as vegetable trimmings, fruit peels, cores and rinds, tea bags, coffee grounds and filters, cooked or uncooked vegetables.

**Examples of Brown Materials:** Leaves, Twigs, Hedge prunings, Shredded tree trimmings, straw or hay, Non- recyclable paper, cardboard (must be torn up or shredded to be used effectively), wood shavings saw dust