

# DIY COMPOSTING



*Composting is a great way to recycle most food waste and yard trimmings and manage your waste more sustainably. Compost can then be reused in your garden! .*

## LARGE COMPOSTER

### What you will need

- Large plastic bin with lid, such as 12-gallon storage bin or trash can
- Drill
- Shredded newspaper
- Dirt from outside
- Dried leaves and/or pine needles
- Food scraps
- Water



### Instructions

With an adults help, drill 8-10 holes about 1-2 inches apart in the bottom of the bin, and four holes on each side of the bin. This will help things decompose. Fill about 1/4 of the bin with shredded newspaper. Fill your bin halfway with dirt. Add a layer of dead leaves or pine needles (This will keep it from smelling). You're ready to add your organic waste! Such as grass clippings, vegetable scraps, coffee grounds, or eggshells. Dampen your compost with water, be sure not to soak it! Place outside where new food scraps and leaf litter can be easily added



## SMALL COMPOSTER

### What you will need

- 1 empty two-liter soda bottle
- Sharp knife/ Scissors
- Pen
- Shredded newspaper
- Dirt from outside
- grass clippings, vegetable scraps, fruit scraps.
- Small handful of dead leaves
- Spray bottle with water

### Instructions

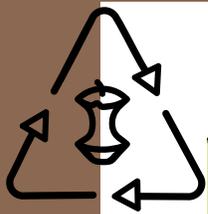
Rinse the bottle and peel off the label. With an adults help, cut off the top of the bottle, approximately 1-2" inches below the neck of the bottle. Set the top aside. With an adults help, use a pen to punch 8 to 10 small air and drainage holes along the sides and bottom of the bottle. Put some dirt, shredded newspaper and old leaves inside the bottle. This is your compost starter. Use the spray bottle to wet the compost starter. You're ready to add your organic waste! Such as grass clippings, vegetable scraps, coffee grounds, or eggshells. Place the top of the bottle upside down in the opening. This will allow an easy flow when keeping the compost damp. Place in a windowsill or area will it be hit with sunlight. Cover the top of your compost when not in use.

Every week, roll the compost bin around, or stir the contents with a stick to keep things mixed up. Always keep the compost damp.



**Did you know?**

There are 7 different species of worms that can be used for compost bins!



# DIY COMPOSTING



*Compost adds essential nutrients needed by plants, compost retains moisture and minimizes soil loss, it also has a higher water-holding capacity which means less water runs off during rainstorms leading to less soil erosion.*

## Helpful Tip:

Keep a small container in your kitchen and fill it with food scraps, once full add the scraps to the compost bin. Just remember to add the same amount of soil and leaves, too.

## WHAT TO COMPOST

- Grass clippings, Plant stalks and twigs, dry leaves.
- Fruit and vegetable scraps
- Eggshells
- Coffee grounds
- Paper tea bags (no staples)
- Paper egg cartons
- Shredded paper (non-glossy, not colored) and shredded brown bags
- Cardboard (No wax, glue, or tape)
- Untreated wood chips



## WHAT NOT TO COMPOST

- Meat, fish, and bones.
- Cat and dog feces
- Diseased and pest-infested plants
- Fats or oils
- Cheese and dairy products
- Plastic
- Glass
- Herbicide treated plants
- Dryer Lint.



## WHY COMPOST?

You reduce the volume of materials sent to landfills and prevent powerful greenhouse gases from being emitted into the atmosphere.

Composting involves minimal effort, equipment, expense, and expertise, and can be a fun and educational project for the whole family.

Compost reduces your need for harmful fertilizer and pesticides.

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