

# Composting at home

A quick and easy guide  
to composting at home  
to make your garden grow



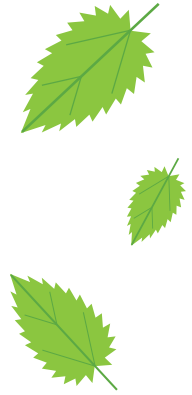
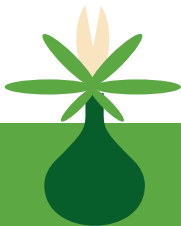
# Why Compost?

Home composting is a great way of transforming your food and garden waste into a nutrient rich food for your garden. It's easy to make and use and it will also help you save money on fertilizers and compost.

This guide will show you how to get started, what to put in your compost bin and how to use your finished product.

## Benefits of composting at home

- + It saves money by reducing the need to buy compost
- + It provides a free soil conditioner that will help improve the health of plants and flowers in your garden
- + It's good for the environment
- + It saves space in your kerbside food caddy



# What can I compost?

Like any recipe, your compost relies on the right ingredients to make it work. The key to good compost lies in getting the mix right. Your compost can be made from both kitchen and garden waste.



## Yes

### Kitchen Waste

- 👍 Fruit scraps & vegetable peelings
- 👍 Tea leaves & coffee grounds
- 👍 Egg shells
- 👍 Paper items including scrunched up cardboard, egg boxes, toilet roll tubes, cereal boxes and unwanted mail

### Garden Waste

- 👍 Cut flowers
- 👍 Garden & house plants
- 👍 Grass cuttings
- 👍 Young annual weeds
- 👍 Shredded twigs
- 👍 Hedge trimmings
- 👍 Straw & hay
- 👍 Wood chippings & sawdust
- 👍 Bedding from vegetarian pets

## No

### Keep these out!

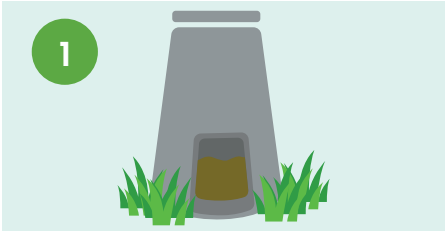
- 👎 Cooked vegetables
- 👎 Meat
- 👎 Dairy products
- 👎 Diseased plants
- 👎 Dog or cat waste
- 👎 Nappies



Reducing the amount of food that gets thrown out is always the best option and it saves money too! For practical hints, tips and recipe ideas, visit:

[www.lovefoodhatewaste.gg](http://www.lovefoodhatewaste.gg)

# Step by step guide



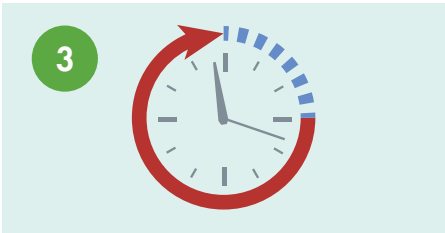
## Setting up your bin

Ideally place your compost bin in a reasonably sunny area on bare soil. If you have to put your compost bin on concrete, place a layer of paper and twigs on the bottom.



## Add the right ingredients

A mixture of garden waste and vegetable/fruit peelings, tea bags and coffee grounds from the kitchen.



## Wait a while

It takes between nine and twelve months for your compost to become ready for use, so now all you need to do is wait and let nature do the work.



## Ready for use

Once your compost has turned into a crumbly, dark material, resembling thick, moist soil you know it's ready to use. Use it to enrich borders and vegetable patches, plant up patio containers or feed the lawn.

## Where to find out more

For more information on all aspects of home composting including FAQs go to

[gov.gg/composting](http://gov.gg/composting)

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