

COMPOST RECIPE

Ingredients:

1 Part Green Material

Fresh grass clippings, fruit and veggie scraps, green plant parts

1 Part Brown Material

Leaves, twigs, chipped branches, and dried grass clippings

Add Kitchen Scraps for Flavor

Egg shells, tea bags, coffee grounds with filters, paper towels and napkins

Directions:

Layer these in a pile about three feet high. Don't use fatty foods (like meat or dairy), they attract animals and can make the pile smell. Add water to keep the pile moist but not soggy. Turn the pile weekly to provide air for microorganisms.

Cook in your backyard until done!



Types of Composters

<h2>WIRE BINS</h2>	<p>Wire Bins are the most cost effective and versatile “bins,” and they are available for free from the Alachua County Office of Waste Alternatives. Because they are inexpensive and easy to construct and have mesh sides for easy aeration, it is possible to have multiple bins to add ease to the turning and mixing of the compost. Simply shovel the compost from one bin to the other!</p>
<h2>PLASTIC BINS</h2>	<p>Plastic Bins are a more durable alternative to the wire bin. The solid sides prevent animals from getting in and the lid prevents excess rain water from soaking the mixture. Vents on this model allow for controllable aeration. Most models are black to allow maximum heat retention, speeding the decomposition process. These bins may also be purchased from the Alachua County Office of Waste Alternatives.</p>
<h2>COMPOST MOUNDS</h2>	<p>To build a compost mound or pile, find a good location and loosen the soil under the heap. A pile should be large enough to hold heat and small enough to admit air to the center. As a rule, the minimum dimensions of a pile should be 3x3x3 feet to hold heat. The maximum dimensions that will allow air to the center of the pile is 5x5 feet by any length.</p>
<h2>COMPOSTING TIPS</h2>	<p>Compost things with a range of textures; you need a mix of soft items as well as coarser stuff, such as cereal boxes. This helps to aerate the compost.</p> <p>If your compost starts to smell, you could have too many greens (add some browns and stir), not enough oxygen (stir it up a bit), or too much moisture (add browns and stir).</p> <p>Remember, you can make a compost pile of just leaves and grass clippings! It works more slowly, but it still works! Add worms to speed things up!</p>

BACKYARD COMPOSTING IS EASY TO DO AND CAN REDUCE THE WASTE YOU SEND TO THE LANDFILL. KITCHEN SCRAPS, SHREDDED PAPER AND PIZZA BOXES CAN'T BE RECYCLED, BUT YOU CAN COMPOST THEM.

JUST SHRED THEM AND ADD TO YOUR PILE WITH WATER! DON'T FORGET CUPS, PLATES AND SILVERWARE LABELED COMPOSTABLE CAN BE ADDED TOO. IF YOU WANT TO GIVE BACKYARD COMPOSTING A TRY CHECK OUT THE SIMPLE RECIPE ON THIS PAGE.

