






How to Use Compost

Compost adds nutrients to the soil and can be used in vegetable gardens, flower beds, lawns and more. Compost is a great way to improve the overall health of your soil while reducing food and yard waste from going to the Landfill.

Tips for use at home

With all applications, it's best to apply compost roughly four weeks before planting/seeding to allow the compost to saturate the soil.

Usage	What to do
Vegetable Gardens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ Work 2 cm of compost into the top of your soil.▶ Put a scoop of compost in the hole directly before planting to give your plants a boost.
Lawns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ For established lawns, it's best to aerate first then apply 1.25 cm evenly over the lawn, watering thoroughly.▶ For new lawns, add 2 cm of compost and mix it uniformly into your topsoil before seeding or applying sod.
Flower Beds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ For existing flower beds, spreading 1.25 cm of compost across the top is enough. If there is mulch, the layer of mulch will have to be removed first.▶ For new flower beds, add 5 cm of compost and mix it well into the soil.
Containers & Raised Beds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ Soil here depletes more quickly. Simply add compost as a fine layer of "mulch" each month can replenish the soil and help plants resist drought.
Houseplants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ Before potting, add a thin layer and mix it into the soil. You can also add a thin layer to the top of the soil every couple months.▶ Leave the compost out in the sun before bringing it in your home – you don't want to bring little critters in with you!

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for more information.





Reduce your household waste and make great soil year-round for your lawn or garden

1

GET YOURSELF A COMPOST BIN: A compost bin should allow easy access to the pile inside and have spaces or holes for airflow.

TIP: A good size for a bin is approximately 1m³ so that the compost pile can generate heat.

2

CHOOSE A BIN LOCATION: Your compost bin should be located in an easily accessible spot in your yard with good drainage and lots of sunlight.

3

START YOUR COMPOST PILE: Start with a 5-10 cm layer of twigs and/or other coarse materials at the bottom of your composter. This will promote airflow.

4

LAYER YOUR MATERIALS: A good rule of thumb is to have roughly equal parts of **BROWN** and **GREEN** materials.

TIP: After the first **BROWN** layer add a thin (approximately 2 cm) layer of your own garden soil to introduce microorganisms to the pile.

5

MIX COMPOST PILE: Every week or so, stir your compost pile. This adds oxygen to your pile which is a necessary component for organic materials to decompose quickly without odour.

6

ADD A DASH OF WATER: The microorganisms in your pile need moisture to move around. Keep your compost as moist as a well squeezed sponge.

7

HARVEST YOUR COMPOST: After 4-6 months your compost will be ready to use. The finished compost will be at the bottom of your pile and an easy way to get to it is to tip your bin over or access through a bottom door.

8

USE YOUR COMPOST: Compost can be added directly to the garden, flower beds and potted plants and worked into the soil.

TIP: Water your plants with compost tea! Put your finished compost in an old stocking and put in a bucket of water or your watering can. This method is an easy way to add nutrients to house or potted plants.