

Why You Should Compost:

Composting helps support healthy plants and provides them with nutrient-rich food.

Composting conserves water by encouraging healthy, strong root systems in plants which help to reduce water run-off.

The use of compost decreases the need for chemical fertilizers. Creating compost can also cut down on the amount of trash you create.

Less garbage means increased space in the landfill which also extends the life of the landfill.



Wikihow.com/Build-a-Tumbling-Composter

Where to Put Your Compost:

Making your own tumbling bin allows for easy access to your compost and turning. The enclosed space also keeps unwanted animals from getting into your compost.



What to Put in Your Compost:

You will want your mixture to consist of 3 parts brown (carbon) to 1 part green (nitrogen).

Composting 101



Ready to Use:

When the material on the bottom of the compost pile is dark and rich in color with no sign of food or yard waste, then it is ready to be used!

Add your new compost to lawns and gardens to help condition the soil and replenish nutrients.

The Process:

Once you have your mixture of browns and greens, the materials will begin to break down, and the temperature within the pile will increase to 90°–140° F. Continue to turn the pile in order to speed up decomposition.

Did you know?

If you end up with too much compost, you can take it to the Sioux Falls Landfill and add it to the City's composting pile.

Greens

- Uncooked or cooked fruits and veggies
- Bread and grains
- Coffee grounds and filters
- Grass clippings
- Paper tea bags with the staple removed
- Hair and fur

Browns

- Cotton or wool rags
- Dryer and vacuum cleaner lint
- Eggshells
- Nutshells
- Fireplace ashes
- Sawdust
- Hay and straw
- Yard trimmings
- Houseplants
- Used potting soil
- Wood chips
- Leaves
- Shredded newspaper
- Cardboard rolls
- Clean paper

3 parts brown materials to 1 part green materials is recommended by the EPA