

Do's and don'ts

Do put in:

- » Fruit scraps
- » Vegetable scraps
- » Coffee Grounds
- » Tea bags
- » Newspaper and cardboard
- » Dry leaves, twigs & garden clippings
- » Egg shells
- » Floor sweepings

Don't put in:

- » Meat or seafood
- » Seed heads
- » Greasy food scraps
- » Fat or oil
- » Dairy products
- » Plastic
- » Large amounts of carbohydrates
- » Dog and cat poo

Find out more:

[innerwest.nsw.gov.au/
Composting](http://innerwest.nsw.gov.au/Composting)

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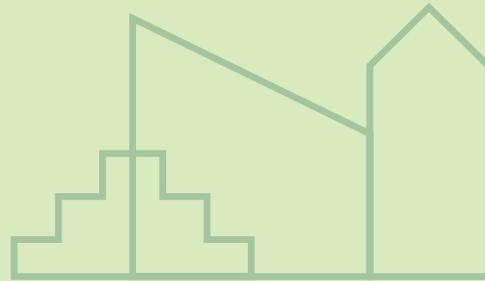
A guide to composting



INNER WEST

Getting started

- 1** Layer the bottom of your bin with a 10-15cm layer of coarse materials from your garden like small sticks or mulch.
- 2** Add a layer of finer carbon-rich materials from your garden, like dried leaves.
- 3** Add a layer of nitrogen-rich materials to the pile like kitchen scraps, grass and flowers.
- 4** Add another layer of carbon-rich materials to the top.
- 5** Water each layer to ensure all materials are moist.
- 6** Cover the pile with a hessian sack, damp cloth or wet newspaper to keep the compost moist.
- 7** Aerate your bin weekly by mixing it with a fork or compost turner.



Keep your compost healthy

Balance nitrogen and carbon content: Roughly a 50:50 ratio of “green” materials and “brown” materials.

If materials are not breaking down – your compost may be too dry. Add water and mix.

If the compost is too wet – add more dry carbon rich material and mix.

Excessive insects or bad odour – your compost may be out of balance, too wet or too dry. Treat as above.