

Composting made dirt simple! waste → valuable resource

A solid composting routine can elevate your gardening, improving your garden soil while reducing household waste!

- enriches soil
- boosts plant health
- helps soil retain moisture
- reduces the need for chemical use

IMPORTANT – Maintain a balance of greens & browns. You want a good **2:1 balanced ratio of browns:greens**. This ratio will ensure a proper decomposition process. Turn your pile regularly to aerate it & speed up the decomposing process.

Greens

- nitrogen-rich material
- provides moisture & nutrients needed for decomposing
- includes: fresh grass clippings (in thin layers to avoid clumping... avoid doing this for about 4 weeks after fertilizing your lawn & don't do this if you chemically treat your lawn), coffee grounds (high nitrogen), fruit & veggie scraps (apple cores, banana peels, carrot skins, etc... these break down quick & provide nutrients to your pile!)

Browns

- carbon-rich material
- supply structure & aeration
- includes: dry leaves (provides carbon & keeps the pile from getting too wet), shredded paper (nothing coated or treated), untreated woodchips & sawdust

AVOID:

- meat, fish, & dairy (foul odor, attracts animals)
- greasy & oily foods (these don't break down well)
- treated wood, painted wood, anything chemically treated or coated
- weeds that seed (you don't want weeds growing up in your new, wonderful soil mixture!)

We have a product here (**Fertilome Compost Maker**) that will help speed up the process of your compost pile, making it usable within around 60 days.

Application: apply up to 1 cup of “compost maker” per layer of material in the compost pile & water it in. Turn the compost after 3 weeks & then apply again.

What is this stuff? I'm glad you asked, because I did some research. The main ingredient in compost maker is **Humic Acid**. This is a complex, naturally occurring compound formed from the natural decomposition of plant & animal matter. It binds to positively charged minerals in the soil & plays a crucial role in soil health by improving its structure, water retention, & nutrient availability for plants. Essentially, it's a mixture of various natural acids derived from decaying natural material that acts as a bio-stimulant: it helps to improve the soil structure & nutrient availability by stimulating beneficial microbial activity, making existing nutrients more readily available to plants & enhancing root development. THIS IS NOT a direct nutrient source itself, so do not mix this directly with your garden soil... mix it in your compost pile!

***SUMMARY ***

Humic acid provides a “food source” for beneficial microbes, stimulating their population, which aids & speeds up the breakdown process of nutrients during composting!

(*compare this with the thought process of fermentation)

We do carry “**Compost Saks**”. This is a 30”x38” sack made from super breathable & porous fabric. This is a really great option for a container to hold your compost pile! Great aeration & playful making it easy to mix your compost.