Compost Basics

"Backyard composting is arguably the single most effective activity individuals can do to help the environment."

- Compost returns essential nutrients to the soil to feed plants
- Decreases watering requirements AND improves drainage
- Reduces waste going to the landfill by as much as 50%

Where



Location:

- Set up near to the main source of materials.
- Ensure drainage.
- Keep away from trees to prevent root invasion.
- Best to have access on all sides.
- Consider placing on a raised bed.

How

Start with a layer of fluffy browns. Add layers of greens and browns and soil or old compost. Top with a layer of browns to inhibit flies or smell.

What



Carbon-rich browns: Nitrogen-rich greens:

- ✓ Kitchen scraps
- √ Grass clippings
- ✓ Coffee grounds and filter
- ✓ Yard waste
- ✓ Seaweed
- ✓ Weeds (no seeds)
- ✓ Manure from grass eaters
- ✓ Eggs shells, crushed
- ✓ Alfalfa meal
- ✓ Fish meal

- ✓ Old leaves
- ✓ Straw
- ✓ Dried weeds and plants
- ✓ Sawdust
- √ Cornstalks
- ✓ Shredded newspaper or cardboard
- ✓ Paper towels
- ✓ Bark
- √ Peanut shells

Leave it out:

- × Fat
- Dog or cat feces
- × Kitty litter
- × Human waste
- Diseased plants
- Sludge, mud or gravel
- * BBQ ashes or coals
- × Invasive plants
- × Non-biodegradable or toxic materials







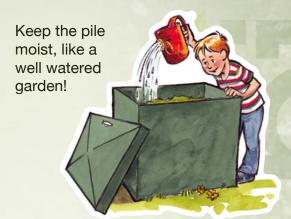
Fresh Earth Products

PO Box 197, Merville, BC VOR 2M0 Toll Free: 888-701-2303 Merville: 250-337-8228 Compost@Spedibin.com

Compost Basics



To ensure aerobic decomposition, aerate the pile.



Hot and cold



Use

Benefits to your garden:

- Prevents soil erosion
- Requires less watering
- Stores and releases nutrients to plants when needed.
- Neutralizes toxins
- Can eliminate need for fertilizer and pesticides
- Makes calcium, potassium, magnesium, iron and trace elements more available to plants.
- Plants become more nutritious and colourful

Hot:

- Add the material all at once.
- Aerate every few days.
- Compost is ready in a few weeks.

Passive:

- Add materials gradually as collected.
- Doesn't get hot.
- Takes several months to fully decompose.



When the compost has finished it's active stage, turn it out for curing, use as a mulch, spread it on lawn, screen it for potting soil, add to gardens.







Fresh Earth Products

PO Box 197, Merville, BC V0R 2M0 Toll Free: 888-701-2303 Merville: 250-337-8228 Compost@Spedibin.com

www.speedibin.com