

# Directions for Composting

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**DISCLAIMER:** Do not overload your compost tumbler. Kedel Limited does not take responsibility or accept liability for breakages or personal injury resulting from the misuse of 'The Compost Creator' due to users not following the very clear usage guidelines supplied with this product.

## 1. Place composter in a sunny position

Ideal range: 122°-130°F (50°-55°C).

Higher temperatures, 130°-150°F (55°-65°C), will kill seeds and pathogens, but it's better not to go above these compost temperatures. These temperatures apply to the centre of the compost not the outside ambient temperature.

## 2. Add compostable materials – USE 1/3 GREEN TO 2/3 BROWN

to ensure a good finished product. Add a handful of fresh topsoil to bring in new microbes. Special accelerents may be used but follow the manufacturer's instructions carefully.

Best to fill 'The Compost Creator' HALF WAY, and DEFINITELY NOT MORE THAN 2/3 FULL, as this reduces aeration and kills important microbes. Overloading with green materials, especially grass cuttings, makes the compost too wet, and could damage your compost tumbler, as the weight would then exceed its working limits.

## 3. Tumble 'The Compost Creator' every 2-3 days and whenever you add more. In fact you can give it a spin more often if you like, whenever you happen to be passing and feel the urge for exercise. The contents should all turn brown, moist and soil-like, and have an earthy smell in about 2-4 weeks, ready to put on your plants or vegetables. But you need to make sure you have the right mix of brown and green material.

## Ideal Composting Materials:

(Note: Your Compost Creator is **rodent proof**)

**Green** – Rich in nitrogen – 1/3<sup>rd</sup>

- Bread
- Cooked food
- Dairy products
- Egg shells
- Fruit and vegetables
- Garden/house plants
- Grass cuttings
- Raw meat and bones (sparingly)
- Tea leaves/bags
- Coffee grounds
- Weeds (not any that have gone to seed)

## **Brown** – Carbon rich – 2/3<sup>rd</sup>

- Bedding from pet cages (rabbits etc)
- Feathers
- Hedge trimmings
- Paper and cardboard
- Straw and hay
- Wood chips and sawdust
- Dried leaves and grass

## **IMPORTANT – DO NOT ADD**

- Dog or cat litter or poo
- Ashes not from wood
- Nappies, glass, plastic, metal
- Any toxic materials
- Diseased plants or any gone to seed

## **Compost problems and solutions**

*What if your composting doesn't seem to be working?*

- **Could be too full** – Remove some material, add some soil and turn several times.
- **Check temperature** – Too cold? Move to a sunnier place or cover barrel with insulating material. Too hot? Move to a cool, shady, breezier area.
- **If nothing works – empty bin and start again** with step 1, mixing old and new materials.

## **Additional Composting Tips**

- **Worms help compost**
- **Breaking material** down before adding it will reduce composting time
- **Don't add too much meat or grass.** It can make the compost too wet and reduce aerobic bacterial growth. It will also make your composter too heavy to turn easily and could damage the structure.
- **Make compost tea** - nutritious plant food – add a little compost liquid to 4-8 litres of water – great for feeding fruit and veg.
- **Don't add paper with lead based inks** on it
- **Avoid repeatedly adding to the same compost batch** as it increases composting time
- **A little urine** is said to speed up the rate of composting, but is not compulsory