

# Homegrown compost:

## Turning waste into black gold!

Making compost at home is a great way to **recycle organic waste** and **create nutrient-rich soil** for your garden. And it's also very easy due to its simplicity and minimal requirements. Have you tried it at home already?



### Here's your step-by-step guide to DIY composting



**1** **Gather organic materials** such as leaves, twigs (yard waste) and fruit and vegetable scraps, coffee grounds, or eggshells (kitchen waste).



**2** **Create a compost pile** or get a compost bin. Alternate layers of collected organic materials: start with a base of coarse items like twigs, then **add green** (nitrogen-rich) **and brown** (carbon-rich) materials in a **2:1 ratio** for optimal composting.



**3** **Keep your compost pile moist** but not soggy. If it's too dry, add water; if it's too wet, add more brown materials. **Turn** the compost pile **regularly** to provide oxygen to the microorganisms responsible for breaking down the organic matter.



**4** **Wait for compost to mature.** It could be a few months or a year, depending on the materials. Once the compost is **dark** and **rich** in texture and has an earthy smell, it's ready to use in your garden.

### Why composting matters

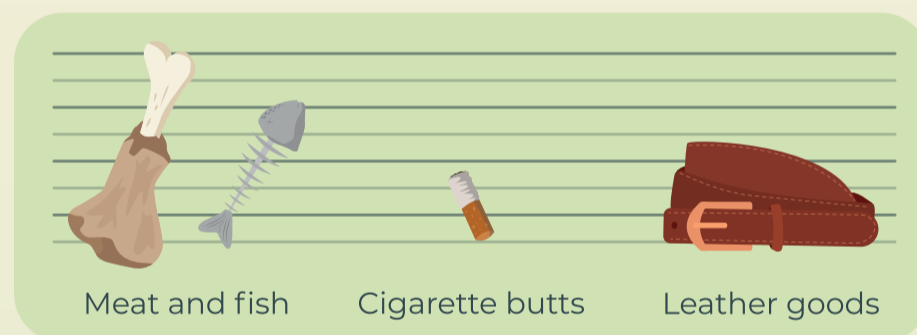


Composting is an **eco-friendly** practice that reduces landfill waste.

It's a **cost-effective** way to enrich soil, replacing the need for store-bought alternatives like peat moss and fertilizer.

It **improves soil quality**, suppresses diseases, and provides a fun, educational activity for the whole family to enjoy.

### Avoid these in your pile



Meat and fish

Cigarette butts

Leather goods



### Extra tip

Short on organic waste? **Give vermicomposting a go!** Worms work their magic, breaking down material into nutrient-rich vermicompost. Healthier than cow manure, it's a microorganism-packed boost for soil and plants!

