

# Great tips for composting at home

Did you know that **36%** of the waste in the rubbish bags was **organic & food waste** (2014 Waste Audit).

Composting is cheap and easy to learn, but requires a little bit of technique which comes with practice.

Breaking down waste requires the right amount of moisture, heat, soil, aeration and the correct mix of materials.

For a healthy compost mixture, you need a good balance of these four ingredients.

**Greens + Browns + Water + Air = Compost**

The following are examples of household waste materials that can be composted;

**YES**



## GREENS (high nitrogen content)

- Vegetable scraps
- Fruit scraps
- Coffee grounds and filters
- Tea leaves and bags
- Lawn clippings
- Plant clippings
- Flowers

## BROWNS (high carbon content)

**YES**



- Tree clippings (only small twigs and branches)
- Dried leaves
- Straw and untreated sawdust
- Shredded paper towels, paper serviettes and tissues
- Shredded paper and cardboard
- Egg shells
- Breads, grains and pasta

Paper and cardboard waste should be ripped into small pieces before adding to the compost (for the best results, soak paper and cardboard in water). Twigs and small branches should not be thicker than your finger (for best results, break twigs into small pieces before adding to compost).

The following are examples of household waste materials that cannot be composted;

**NO**



- Meat, fish or poultry
- Bones
- Weeds
- Plant residue with chemical spray
- Cooking oils or fats
- Dairy products
- Wood or timber
- Glass, metals or plastics
- Styrofoam
- Liquids
- Hazardous substances
- Dog or cat waste



Get the family involved - children really enjoy recycling, gardening and learning how they can care for our environment.



- Compost can help you grow a healthy and plentiful garden.

- Composting reduces the harmful effects of organic waste in landfill (eg, water pollution, emissions of the potent greenhouse gas methane, and bad smells).
- Composting reduces the need for chemical fertilisers in your garden.
- Composting reduces household rubbish disposal costs.
- Composting reduces the space needed for garden waste in landfill.

*Reduce, re-use and recycle*