

Reduce
Reuse
Repair
Compost
Recycle

Buckinghamshire
WASTE BUSTERS

COMPOST

GETTING THE MIX RIGHT

50% Browns
Carbon-rich

50% Greens
Nitrogen-rich



Your composting questions

Do I need to turn my compost?

The more air you get in to the process, the quicker it will happen. One way is to turn it, but an even mix of greens & browns will too. A really hot heap can produce compost in just 8 weeks, but it can take over a year in a cooler one. Colder weather also slows the process.

Do I need to water my compost?

You shouldn't have to add water if you have a good balance of greens & browns, but you can if it's getting too dry. Give your compost the squeeze test to check if it is too wet or too dry – it should feel damp like a wrung out sponge.

What can I do about rats?

Deter rats by visiting your bin regularly, moving it away from the edges of the garden & adding more greens to make it less of a dry place to nest. Avoid adding cooked food, meat, fish & dairy. Choose a bin with a sealed base or line it with builder's mesh (not chicken wire).

Where should I put my bin?

Composting will happen anywhere, even on slabs, but on the soil is best as it provides better drainage and all the decomposers can get in & out too. Your compost heap or bin will need some sun; if in a really shaded spot, it can take a lot longer to produce compost.

What kind of bin should I buy?

There are so many bins on the market & different ones suit different households. In most situations, we advise you to start with a basic black Dalek bin, but ask one of our volunteers or check out the LinkTree page below. No garden? See www.sharewaste.com.

Can I compost perennial weeds?

Yes, but first you need to drown the roots by soaking them in a bucket/bin for weeks until fully rotted, then add the fluid to the heap. Alternatively, shred/mash the roots, mix with grass cuttings in a plastic sack, & leave for 6 months before adding to your compost.

Find out more about composting at
www.linktr.ee/gardenorganiccomposting



Find out about compost bin discounts for
Buckinghamshire residents and reducing your waste at
www.recycleforbuckinghamshire.co.uk/wastebusters

Working in partnership



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