

Basic Home Composting Recipe

- **2-3 Parts Carbon - “Brown” materials**
 - Woody, dry materials- leaves, soiled paper, shredded paper, wood shavings, straw, animal bedding
 - Bulky materials, including branches should be chopped or shredded.
- **1 Part Nitrogen - “Green” materials**
 - Green, wet materials, such as kitchen scraps, grass clippings, garden trimmings (no weeds), manures (no cat or dog)
- **Combine organic materials in proper ratios**

- **Keep it small!**
 - Mowing, grinding, chipping, or shredding

- **Contain it!**
 - Minimum of 3 x 3 x 3
 - Bin or pile

- **A little soil or finished compost**

- **Moisture**
 - Just a little, like a damp sponge
 - Leave lid or cover off during rain
 - Required to keep compost microorganisms alive & active

- **Air/Aeration**
 - Turn or aerate materials
 - Or, place materials on perforated pipes



Other Needs

- Shovel or Pitch Fork
 - ✓ Or, bobcat/tractor
- Covered area for storage of leaves/carbon sources
- Thermometer
 - ✓ For hot composting
- *And, You, of course!*

Acceptable Materials

- ✓ Vegetable food scraps, peels
- ✓ Fruit scraps, peels
- ✓ Nuts & nut shells
- ✓ Dairy, cheese
- ✓ Coffee grounds/filters & tea bags
- ✓ Leaves, garden trimmings
- ✓ Napkins, paper towels
- ✓ Shredded paper
- ✓ Sawdust



DO NOT COMPOST

- Meat/Bones/Grease
- Weeds
 - Tomatoes & squash may sprout “volunteers”
- Cat litter or dog manure

*** Small amounts of meat & grease, e.g., in soups, casseroles, sauces should be fine. Eggs & egg shells are fine.*