

# Make a compost pile

## Brown stuff

- Leaves, twigs, yard trimmings
- Yard, thread, string, rope
- Paper rolls (towel, toilet, gift wrap)
- Nut shells (not walnut)
- Cotton, wool, silk, felt, linen, burlap
- Vacuum contents, floor sweepings
- Straw, hay, corn cobs
- Newspaper, non-glossy paper
- Pizza, cereal boxes, paper egg cartons
- Grains, cereal, crackers
- Paper napkins, bags
- Sawdust, wood bark and chips

## Green stuff

- Grass clippings
- Vegetables, fruits
- Coffee grounds, filters
- Tea bags and leaves
- Egg shells
- Flowers, dead blooms
- Aquarium water, algae, plants
- Bread, tortilla, pita bread
- Rabbit, chicken, horse manure
- Houseplant leaves
- Hair, fur, feathers



1. Build your pile three to five feet high and at least three feet wide so it can retain heat.
2. Add four or five inches of brown stuff, then two or three inches of green stuff, and keep alternating the layers.
3. Thoroughly water each layer to ensure even moisture throughout
4. Toss in a handful of soil on each layer to introduce more microorganisms.
5. Top the pile with five inches of browns to prevent flies and other pests and provide a filter for odors.
6. Compost piles need to be aerated: turn the organic materials with a digging fork or shovel

