

BACKYARD COMPOSTING

G=greens B=browns

Recipe One

3 parts fresh grass clippings G
3 parts fruit & veggie scraps G
6 parts dry leaves B

Recipe Two

3 parts dry grass clippings B
3 parts garden prunings G

Recipe Three

3 parts wood shavings B
3 parts fresh grass clippings G

Add water and air to all recipes

Extras

1/2 -2 shovelfuls fireplace ashes
1/2 shovelful bone meal
1/2 shovelful finished compost

Preparation

Your compost pile should be a 50/50 mix of brown (avoid pine needles) & green materials. Composting works best with at least one cubic yard of material. Remember to mix in some water and keep the pile moist (like a damp sponge). Fluff up your pile once a week. In a month or two, your compost will be ready!



County of San Bernardino
Department of Public Works
Solid Waste Management Division
1.800.722.8004
www.sbcounty.gov/dpw/solidwaste

HOW TO COMPOST AT HOME

GREENS + BROWNS + AIR & WATER + TIME = COMPOST

It's easy to do: Put equal amounts of greens and browns into a pile or a composting bin. Once you have at least one cubic yard of material, add enough water to make the material moist and mix. Keep the material moist and mix weekly. In as little as 4-6 weeks your compost will be ready. Using a composting bin helps keep your pile neat, retain moisture and heat. For more information please call San Bernardino County Solid Waste Management Division at 1.800.722.8004 or visit www.sbcounty.gov/dpw/solidwaste.

Troubleshooting

Symptom	Problem	Solution
Question.	What can I do with compost?	Compost is used to enrich the soil and as a mulch to retain moisture and protect plants.
Bad odor.	Not enough air, or too much green material.	Mix the pile, or add in more brown material.
Composts too slowly.	Not enough water.	Moisten and mix the pile.
Pile is damp and warm only in the center.	Pile is too small.	Collect more material and mix it into the pile.
Pile is damp and sweet smelling, but no heat.	Lack of green material.	Mix in more green material like fresh lawn clippings, yard trimmings, and weeds.