

HOW TO MAKE COMPOST TEA

Liquid Gold for Your Garden!

Compost tea is a nutrient-rich, microbe-packed elixir that feeds your plants, builds soil health, and boosts growth—naturally!

WHAT IS COMPOST TEA?

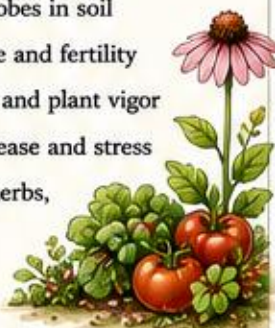
Compost tea is a liquid extract made by steeping finished compost in aerated, dechlorinated water.

It delivers beneficial microbes, nutrients, and enzymes directly to your plants and soil.



BENEFITS OF COMPOST TEA

- ✓ Increases nutrients available to plants
- ✓ Boosts beneficial microbes in soil
- ✓ Improves soil structure and fertility
- ✓ Enhances root growth and plant vigor
- ✓ Helps plants resist disease and stress
- ✓ Great for vegetables, herbs, flowers, and lawns!



WHAT YOU NEED

- Finished compost (high quality)
- Dechlorinated water
- 5-gallon bucket or container
- Aeration system (air pump + air stone)
- Burlap sack, mesh bag, or old pillowcase
- Stirring stick
- Optional: molasses or kelp meal (microbe food)



STEP-BY-STEP: HOW TO MAKE COMPOST TEA

1 GATHER YOUR SUPPLIES



Use high-quality, finished compost that is dark, crumbly, and earthy smelling.

2 PREPARE THE COMPOST BAG



Fill the bag with 1–2 cups of compost. Tie it closed securely.

3 FILL THE BUCKET



Fill the bucket with 5 gallons of dechlorinated water. Hang the compost bag in the water.

4 ADD AIR STONE



Place the air stone in the bucket and connect to the air pump. This oxygenates the tea and multiplies beneficial microbes.

5 BREW THE TEA



Brew for 18–36 hours. Keep the tea aerated and the bucket in the shade (50–70°F is ideal). Stir gently if needed.

6 USE IT FRESH!



Use compost tea within 24 hours for best results. Do not store.

OPTIONAL BOOSTERS (MICROBE FOOD)

Boost your tea with a little food for the microbes:

- ✓ 1 tablespoon unsulfured molasses
- ✓ 1 tablespoon kelp meal or seaweed extract
- ✓ Fish hydrolysate (follow label directions)



IMPORTANT TIPS

- ✓ Always use finished compost, not fresh manure.
- ✓ Use dechlorinated water (let tap water sit 24 hours or use rainwater).
- ✓ Keep the tea aerated the entire time.
- ✓ Brew in the shade and in moderate temperatures.
- ✓ Use within 24 hours for maximum benefits.
- ✓ Never let the tea sit without air—it can turn anaerobic and harm plants.

Fresh,
Aerated,
Alive!



HOW TO USE COMPOST TEA

AS A SOIL DRENCH



Pour around the base of plants and into the root zone. Use 1 part compost tea to 5–10 parts water.

AS A FOLIAR SPRAY



Strain the tea and spray leaves in the early morning or evening. Use 1 part tea to 10 parts water.

FOR SEED STARTS



Use a mild solution (1 part tea to 10–20 parts water) to water seedlings and encourage strong root development.

FOR COMPOST BINS



Pour tea over your compost pile to boost microbial activity and speed decomposition.

WHAT YOU'LL SEE

After using compost tea regularly:

- ✓ Healthier, greener plants
- ✓ Stronger root systems
- ✓ More flowers and fruit
- ✓ Better soil structure
- ✓ Greater resistance to pests and disease



RECOMMENDED USE FREQUENCY



Vegetables
Every 1–2 weeks



Flowers & Herbs
Every 1–2 weeks



Seedlings
Every 7–10 days



Lawns
Every 2–4 weeks

STORAGE (IF NECESSARY)

Compost tea is best used fresh. If you must store it, keep it cool and out of direct sun, but use within 24 hours. Do not store longer—beneficial microbes will die off.



TIP FOR LARGE GARDENS

Make larger batches in a 30–55 gallon container with an aeration system. Same ratio: 1–2 cups compost per 5 gallons water. Brew 18–36 hours and apply!



Healthy Soil. Healthy Plants. Healthy You. That's the Power of Compost Tea!