



WHAT TO COMPOST

(AND WHAT TO AVOID)

🌿 A GUIDE TO HEALTHY, HAPPY COMPOST! 🌿



GREAT MATERIALS TO ADD

1. GREENS – Nitrogen Rich

Soft, moist materials that “heat up” your pile.



Fruit & vegetable scraps



Coffee grounds & filters



Grass clippings



Tea leaves



Fresh plant trimmings & weeds (no seeds)



Crushed eggshells

2. BROWNS – Carbon Rich

Dry, coarse materials that “cool down” your pile.



Dry leaves



Straw or hay



Shredded paper (plain)



Small twigs & branches



Wood chips or sawdust



Cardboard (torn up)

3. OTHER BENEFICIALS

These extras boost nutrients and balance.



Compost or aged manure



Chewed-up corn cobs



Feathers



Hair & fur (small amounts)



Nut shells



Wood ash (small amounts)

TIPS FOR SUCCESS

- ✓ Mix greens and browns in layers.
- ✓ Keep materials chopped or shredded.
- ✓ Moisten like a wrung-out sponge.
- ✓ Turn your pile regularly for air.
- ✓ Aim for a mix of about 2–3 parts browns to 1 part greens.



MATERIALS TO AVOID

1. MEATS, FATS & DAIRY

These attract pests and cause odors.



Meat, bones & fish



Dairy products (cheese, milk, etc.)



Oils, grease & lard

2. PROBLEM MATERIALS

These can harm your compost or slow down the process.



Pet waste (dog, cat, etc.)



Diseased plants or weeds with seeds



Treated wood, painted or stained



Charcoal briquettes (take a long time to break down)



Coal or ash (large amounts)



Weed killer or chemical residues

3. SLOW TO BREAK DOWN

These take a very long time to compost.



Large branches or logs



Corn stalks (whole)



Pine needles (large amounts)

BEST PRACTICES

- ✓ Keep a good balance of greens and browns.
- ✓ Chop materials into small pieces.
- ✓ Keep the pile moist and aerated.
- ✓ Compost all organic materials you can—your garden (and the planet) will thank you!



COMPOSTING IS NATURE'S WAY OF RECYCLING!

Good materials in, rich soil out.
Happy garden, happy you!



Remember:

When in doubt, leave it out!

