



## HOW TO MAKE COMPOST: A Recipe for a Health Garden

1. Find a well drained spot out of direct sunlight.
2. Start with a layer of coarse material, such as twigs, brown leaves, or straw.
3. Add a layer of grass clippings, green leaves, coffee grounds, tea bags, and/or fruit and vegetable scraps. Bury food scraps to keep pests away.
4. Turn the mixture on a regular basis to provide good air circulation.
5. Water the pile occasionally; kept it moist, but not soggy.
6. Add more leaves, grass clippings, and kitchen scraps whenever you have some. Continue to turn and water the pile.
7. For best results, build a pile that's 3 feet wide and deep.
8. Compost will be done in 6 to 12 weeks. It will look like deep brown soil. Apply compost liberally to garden plants, then watch them bloom and grow!

Source of Information: *Backyard Composting*; Harmonious Press, 1992.

*A Green Guide to Yard Care*; TCEQ GI-028. Can be downloaded from [www.tceq.state.tx.us/publications](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/publications).