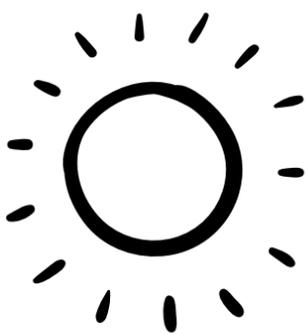


SIMPLE STEPS TO COMPOSTING

Divert your food waste and feed your garden!



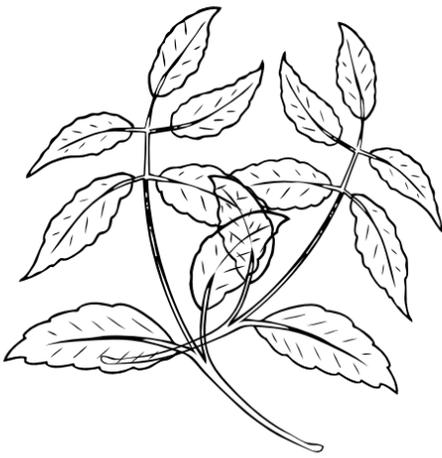
1 CHOOSE YOUR SPOT

Make it sunny! Sunlight will help jumpstart your compost pile by providing additional heat and energy.



2 CHOOSE/BUILD YOUR CONTAINER

There are many different ways to store your compost--if you aren't creating an open backyard pile, you can either buy a compost bin or make your own! If you decide to build one, avoid using treated wood as it can lead to harmful chemicals leaching into your compost.



3 CREATE BASE FOR PILE

Start off with a base layer of sticks and twigs--this will help by providing proper drainage and aeration. Cover the base layer with other brown material such as dried leaves and wood shavings. Adding garden soil will also help introduce worms and other critters to the pile--which will help speed up the decomposition process!



4 LAYER UP!

Continue to build your compost pile with layers that alternate between green (food scraps, grass clippings, etc.) and brown (dried leaves, shredded paper, cardboard, etc.) materials. This will help create more heat, which will in turn speed up the process!



5 BE PATIENT

Compost takes time. Let nature take its course! The pile will gradually start to sink down as the material decomposes. Continue to add new material and remember to cover food waste with dried leaves and plant scraps to keep away flies and animals.



6 FEED YOUR GARDEN!

Harvest compost from the bottom of the pile. You don't need to wait until the entire pile turns into dirt! Compost is ready for use when it looks like mulch or soil. Spread it around your plants or mix in with soil at any time of the year!

