

# FREE COMPOST...

**"Where?" You may ask. The answer is in your own back garden!**

Spring is sprung and the grass is riz, as the old rhyme goes. If your grass is rising and the garden is springing into life again, now's a good time to think about a compost bin!

## Why?

Making your own compost is a cheap and natural way of returning nutrients to the soil to support the growth of healthy plants and help your garden thrive.

## How?

You can buy a reduced priced compost bin made from recycled plastic from [www.getcomposting.com](http://www.getcomposting.com) or make your own from old [pallets](#). Sleek or rustic, they both do the same job and that's to create a warm environment for organic matter such as grass cuttings, plant pruning's and vegetable peelings to rot down into a nutrient rich compost.



Making compost is like baking a cake – add the right ingredients, cook at the right temperature and hey presto! Perfect results every time!

Ideally, a compost bin will have a 50/50 mix of greens and browns:

Greens	Browns
Vegetable peelings	Straw
Fruit waste (and other food waste, depending on your composter)	Wood shavings / wood pellets (depending on your composter)
Old flowers and weeds	Cardboard / scrunched up paper
Grass cuttings / hedge clippings	Small twigs
Fresh leaves	Dead leaves

It's important to only compost uncooked food scraps and avoid adding meat or fish as you may end up attracting unwanted visitors to your garden. If you want to compost all food waste, including cooked food, meat and fish, you'll need a closed system such as the Green Johanna which is available at a reduced price [here](#).

Did you know that you can compost tissues, pet fur, nail clippings and the contents of your vacuum cleaner? Basically, anything that once lived can be composted!

This handy [step by step guide](#) will help you get started and includes some insightful video tutorials by composting guru Nicky Scott.

Your compost will be ready in 9-12 months and should be rich, dark, and crumbly with an earthy smell. Use it in plant beds, vegetable patches and hanging baskets to add moisture, structure, and nutrients back into the soil.

If you don't have the space for a compost bin, why not opt for a wormery? Worms are the perfect low maintenance pet and will happily munch your food waste, leaving you with a very rich soil improver and lots of nutritious liquid plant food. Find out more [here](#)

Happy composting!