



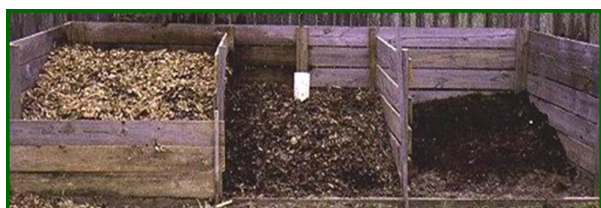
Rule to follow: 4 part brown (C) to 1 part green (N) in volume

Think of a 5 gallon bucket broken down into parts—4 gallons of browns to 1 gallon of greens

Browns	Browns	Greens	Greens
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decay very slowly Coarse browns can keep pile aerated Tend to accumulate in the fall Tie up nitrogen in soil if not fully composted May need to stockpile until can be mixed with greens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leaves Straw Paper Sawdust Cardboard Animal bedding mixed with manure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decay rapidly Poor aeration—may have foul odors if composted alone Tend to accumulate in spring and summer Supply nitrogen for composting Best composting if mixed with browns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vegetables Fruit Coffee Grounds Egg Shells Grass Clippings Herbivore Manure—cow, horse, sheep, goat Chicken & Bat manure

If the pile stinks, the pile may be too wet, not getting enough air or has too many greens. Add more browns, mix and limit water exposure until balanced.

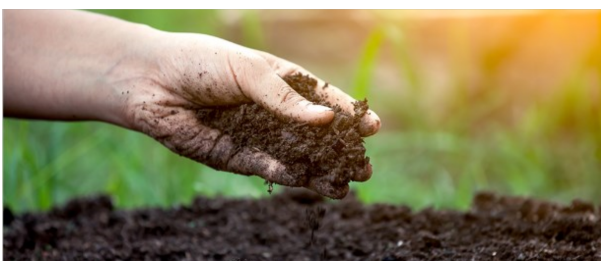
If the pile is not composting, the pile may be too dry, getting too much air, or has too many browns. Limit addition of browns, add moisture or more greens.



The most rapid composting is achieved by adding mixed browns + greens, regularly turning (mixing) the compost pile, and controlling water content.

When the pile no longer heats after mixing, allow it to cure (stand without mixing) for at least 4 weeks before using the compost.

It should resemble and smell like soil.



Compost Tea

1. Fill a clean 5 gallon bucket with water. If possible, use rainwater collected in a rain barrel. If using chlorinated water, set filled bucket outside in sunny location for a short while to for chlorine removal.
2. Make a tea bag by filling mesh type material with 4 to 6 cups of compost. Materials that work well are old nylons, burlap, cheese cloth or small mesh laundry bags. Suspend homemade tea bag in water.
3. Let tea bag steep for 24 hours. To derive the most benefit, apply tea within 4 hours after steep is complete.

Full strength compost tea is safe, however you can further its use by diluting with water.

Soil Drench: For a healthy lawn follow up aeration with a tea application.

Foliar Spray: For best results, at least 75% of upper and lower leaf surface should be covered during each applica-