

5 How to set up a bin

- ✓ Get two same-type containers and one lid
- ✓ Drill holes in the bottom of one of the bins or cut out one of the bottoms and use a fine mesh
- ✓ Line the bottom with slightly wet brown material
- ✓ Add green material whenever needed, making sure to cover with more brown material



CITY OF
CARPINTERIA

The City of Carpinteria provides **FREE** kitchen pails to Carpinteria residents!

OPEN

MONDAY - FRIDAY

8AM-5PM

More Information

www.carpinteriaca.gov

sustainability@carpinteriaca.gov



Location

**5775 Carpinteria Ave,
Carpinteria, CA 93013**



Contact Us

805.880.3415



DIY Composting Bin

Learn how to build and use food scraps to make rich compost



WHAT GOES IN A BIN

- Fruit and veggie scraps
- Coffee and tea
- Egg shells
- Grains, cereal, bread, pasta, rice
- Paper scraps, towels, toilet paper rolls
- Garden clippings, flowers, dead plants

WHAT DOES NOT GO IN A BIN

- Meat, dairy, oil*
- No plastic, pet poop, or cleaning chemicals

***These items can be added but might cause additional smell and attract critters**

COMPOST LEACHATE

- Water that drains from the bottom of the compost bin
- Can be full of harmful bacteria
- Smells bad - dump under a tree or down the sink
- Does not smell bad - dilute heavily with water

COMMON PROBLEMS

SMELLS BAD

**ADD BROWN MATERIAL
CHECK MOISTURE LEVEL**

FRUIT FLIES

**ADD BROWN MATERIAL
PLACE A FRUIT FLY TRAP**



How to Harvest?

BLACK GOLD

Wait until the compost is fully broken down before harvesting. Compost will be a dark color and a fine texture.

ADD TO PLANTS

Once fully broken down, add compost to plants or store in a container to use as needed. Make compost tea for fertilizer

Compost Tea

Need:

- Dechlorinated water (rainwater, distilled water, etc)
- Finished compost
- Porous bags (stockings)

Add your compost to the bag and put in a bucket with the water. Leave overnight up to a couple of days. Optional: Add brown sugar and stir to increase bacteria and oxygen