

## Recycle your garden waste

Make good compost from all dead plant material [except diseased plants]. This free compost adds rich nutrient to the soil helping plants grow well.

## Make compost

Dead plant material always rots down, but you get good compost within a year if you:

- Put a compost bin on soil in a sunny place. It takes longer to make good compost in a shady spot
- Keep compost material damp, but not soggy
- Put in both green, sappy garden waste, like grass and weeds, and brown, fibrous material, like stalks and crumpled paper
- Regularly add in raw vegetable peelings from the kitchen

## Collecting compost from your bin

Keep adding material all the time. After a year, you will have some good compost.

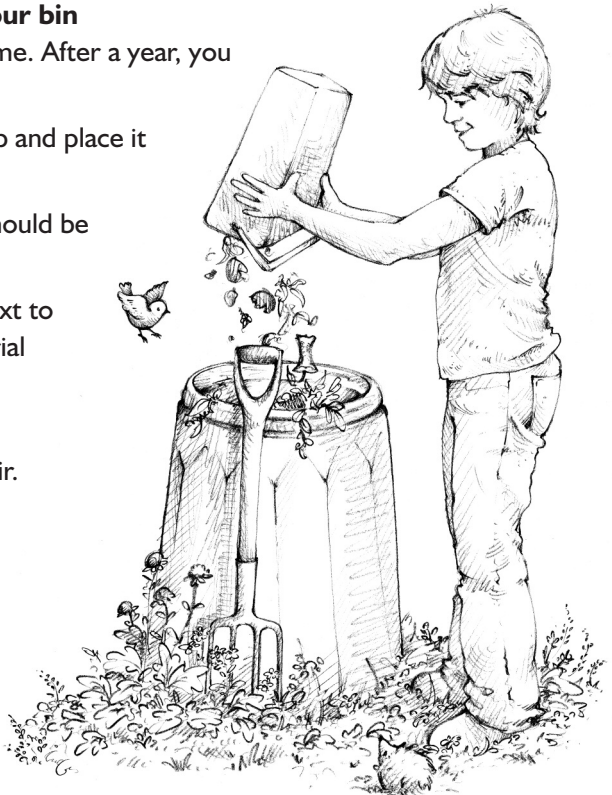
Gently lift your compost bin up and place it beside the pile.

The compost at the bottom should be well rotted and ready to use.

Put the empty compost bin next to the heap and fork in the material that hasn't rotted down.

When you're turning your compost like this, you mix in air. This helps to make compost more quickly.

If you're short of space, put the unrotted material to one side and place the compost bin back in its original site after you have taken away the compost that is ready.



Don't try to extract compost through the hatch at the bottom of a composter. You can't reach everything with your shovel. Once you've removed some compost, material that isn't ready will fall into the hole you've made and it gets mixed up with good, well rotted compost.

### **Using your compost**

You can use good compost in lots of ways: Dig compost into the ground. Mulch round plants. Use as a top dressing in pots and containers. Make your own potting compost by mixing with leafmould, green waste or coir.

### **Make your own Compost Bin**

Visit [www.askorganic.co.uk](http://www.askorganic.co.uk) for ideas and instructions on how to make your own compost bin.

### **Composting at Community Recycling Centres**

Take excess garden waste or waste that you can't reuse in the garden to one of Scottish Borders Council's Community Recycling Centres.

#### Community Recycling Centres

Duns – Station Road Industrial Estate, TD11 3HS.

Eshiels – Innerleithen Road, EH45 8NA.

Eyemouth – Gunsgreenhill Industrial Estate, TD14 5SF.

Galashiels – Langshaw Road, Easter Langlee, TD1 2NT.

Hawick – Mansfield Road, TD9 8AW.

Selkirk – Riverside, TD7 5DU.

The opening times are: Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm; Saturday and Sunday, 9am to 4pm for all sites except Selkirk: Monday to Friday 10am to 6pm; Saturday and Sunday 11am to 6pm.

For more information contact

ASK Organic [www.askorganic.co.uk](http://www.askorganic.co.uk) or 01450 860778

Visit the Home Composting Display within Woodside Plant Centre, Ancrum, Jedburgh.

For information on Waste and Recycling contact Scottish Borders Council 0300 100 1800 or on-line at [www.scotborders.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/recycling)

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