



# WELCOME!

## Topics We'll Cover

- The importance of composting
- How to get started and overcome fear or overwhelm
- Types, my strategies and GOAL set up
- Hot vs Cold
- Yes or No & Ratios
- Recipe for success
- How and when to harvest
- Problem-solving and common issues
- Alternative composting methods
- Q&A

**“On average Australians throw out up to 20% of the food they buy, which once sent to landfill is generating methane equivalent to around 6.8 million tonnes of carbon dioxide. Not to mention all the energy used to get that food to your table in the first place”.\***

\* source: <https://www.climatecouncil.org.au/from-farm-to-plate-to-the-atmosphere-reducing-your-food-related-emissions/>

# Why Compost?

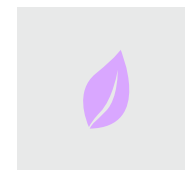
Turn organic waste into nutrient-rich soil to feed & grow thriving gardens.



Healthy soil is ALIVE - feed and encourage beneficial microbes



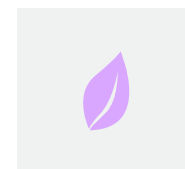
Stops green waste going to land fill



Remediate poor sandy soils - reduce water loss



Grow strong healthy plants



Close the loop and create sustainable systems

# HOW TO GET STARTED?

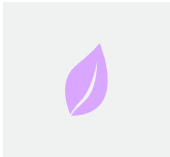
Overcoming fear and overwhelm



Choose x2 systems or bins



Save a yes and no list



Create a browns bucket



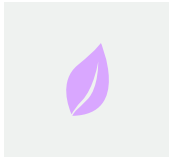
Add a handful of soil to start



Cut plants into smaller bits



Keep hydrated



Diversity is key - layer



Start a kitchen scrap habit

# My Strategy and GOAL set up

CREATING SYSTEMS IN EACH GARDEN

SYSTEM	PROS	CONS
 <p>Multiple Compost Bays</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Systems for maximum compost production.</li> <li>• Great for larger gardens and small-scale farms.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Require a lot of space.</li> <li>• More manual labour to mix and turn the compost piles.</li> <li>• Rats</li> </ul>
 <p>Compost Bins</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Great size for home gardens.</li> <li>• Open bottom to allow worms and microbes to speed up composting.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to be manually turned with a fork to aerate</li> <li>• Rats or pests can dig up underneath.</li> <li>• Can be tricky to access finished soil.</li> </ul>
 <p>Compost Tumblers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Great for suburban or urban gardens.</li> <li>• Can be kept on pavers or concrete</li> <li>• Easy to turn and aerate</li> <li>• Easy to access soil</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dry out quickly.</li> <li>• Less worms or microbes will get in.</li> <li>• Fill up quickly &amp; produce small amount of compost.</li> <li>• Can leak valuable liquid.</li> </ul>
 <p>In-ground Worm Towers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small &amp; convenient can be used in raised garden beds.</li> <li>• Great for urban gardens.</li> <li>• Easy and low maintenance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small systems that will fill up quickly.</li> <li>• Can attract mice or pests.</li> <li>• Produce a small amount of compost.</li> </ul>



# HOT VS COLD COMPOSTING

## HOT

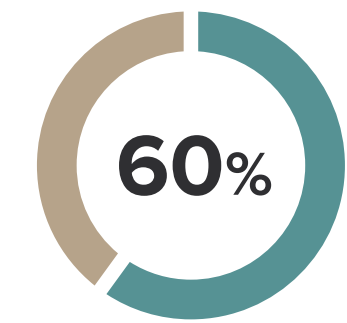
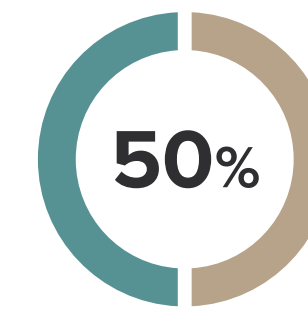
Faster results  
Destroys seeds and weeds  
Smells earthy  
Kills pathogens  
Higher maintenance  
Decent size pile needed  
Best if done at once  
Regular batches  
Needs oxygen - turning  
Aerobic method  
Temperature checking  
Optimum 60-65 degrees  
Turn if it reaches 70 +

## COLD

Slower results  
Smells rotten  
Low maintenance (none)  
Works at any size  
Small amounts can be added  
Fermentation process  
No oxygen needed  
Can attract pests  
Worm friendly  
Anaerobic method

# Yes or No?

## Ratios



GREEN /NITROGEN	BROWN/CARBON	THINGS TO AVOID
<p>Healthy disease free plant matter Green leaves Fruit scraps (avoid excess citrus) Vegetable scraps Eggshells Coffee grounds Manure (cow,horse,chicken,rabbit sheep) Flowers Hedge trimmings Lawn clippings</p>	<p>Shredded paper Cardboard Dried Leaves Dried sticks and twigs 100% cotton or wool Toilet rolls Sawdust Straw &amp; Hay Egg cartons Fire ash Compostable packaging</p>	<p>Excess Citrus Garlic Meat/bones Oils/fats Pet Waste Coal/ Charcoal Dairy products Diseased Plants Invasive weeds &amp; Grasses Whole onions Treated timber ash or sawdust</p>



## RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

1. Multiple systems close and convenient - part sun or shade
2. Spread in Layers
3. Ratio 50:50 - 60:40
4. Add healthy garden soil
5. Hydrate
6. Turn and Aerate
7. Cover and secure
8. Stop, swap and harvest



## HOW TO HARVEST YOUR SOIL AND WHEN?

1. Bin #1 starts getting full of soil
2. Stop adding new material to bin #1 and shift Bin #2
3. Wait until it looks (close enough) broken down (3-4 weeks)
4. Lift bin or tip on to an empty garden or cover (cardboard, sheet etc)
5. Dig through and remove parts that haven't broken down
6. Place unbroken down material into bin #2
7. Add to garden beds - On top of mulch (if re:mulching) or under
8. Repeat cycle

# COMMON PROBLEMS



Stinky and slimy - add carbon



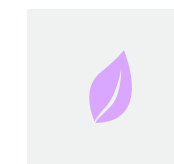
Rodants - vermin mesh



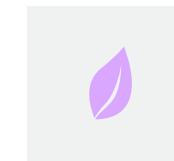
Slow - add carbon



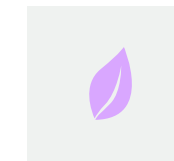
Bugs - cover and activate heat



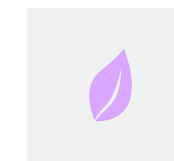
Leaking - drip tray



Dry - cover, hydrate, shade



Covers - Rain or heat



Running out of room



## ALTERNATIVE SYSTEMS

1. Bokashi - meat products
2. Bury in the Garden
3. Worm Farms
4. Chop and Drop
5. Mulcher
6. Local collections or community gardens
7. Animals

# TAKE ACTION

- GET STARTED TODAY
- HYDRATE
- AERATE
- ADD BROWNS?
- GET A BROWNS BUCKET
- MULTIPLE SYSTEMS
- BOOST OF NATURAL  
MICROBS



# Q&A

