## HOW-TO-DO-IT

# MAKE COMPOST THE EASY WAY

## with a backyard compost bin

### **1. Select a location**

- Well drained; in partial shade (sun dries out the compost).
- Near garden beds where compost will be used.
- Accessible to a water source.
- Away from tree roots which could grow up into the compost.
- Screened from neighbors.

#### 2. Select a bin

Bins may be purchased from local garden centers, bardware stores and on-line.



#### **BLACK PLASTIC BIN** WITH COVER (holding unit)

- Organizes the compost mix and maximizes decomposition.
- New materials may be gradually added on top.
- Open bottom of compost bin allows excess water to drain into the soil.
- Lid retains moisture and keeps out animals.
- Remove finished compost from bottom of bin after 4 6 months.



# **COMPOST TUMBLER** (turning unit)

- Produces modest-sized batches of compost.
- All ingredients are added at the same time (batch method).
- With frequent turning, compost is ready in 6 8 weeks.

## 3. Make compost!



• Collect and shred yard waste materials.

THE

• Mix "green" materials (25%) with "brown" materials (50%).

• Add soil or compost

(25% of total mix).





• Add water – so that the compost mix is as wet as a wrung-out sponge. Mix the materials every several weeks. Let the microorganisms do the work!

Plants prefer soil that is as alive as they are!



#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

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