HOME COMPOSTING MADE CHEAP, SIMPLE AND FUN
1. WHAT IS COMPOST?
Composting converts organic kitchen and garden waste into dark colored 'soil' like material that is high in nutrients and can retain moisture. Composting is the name given to a method of breaking down organic waste, either aerobically or anaerobically. Aerobic breakdown is desirable because it is quicker and more environmentally friendly.

2. WHY COMPOST?
Using a composter enables the average household divert 50% of their waste away from landfill, into compost. This organic waste such as garden waste and food (kitchen) waste when sent to landfill will ultimately lead to high methane levels (21 times more harmful than CO₂). By composting, you will contribute to reducing the waste that goes to either landfill or incineration and ultimately reduce your household's carbon footprint.

3. WHY THIS COMPOSTER?
- It has a central aeration system
  The central aeration system makes the composter easy-to-use as it removes the need to regularly turn the compost to ensure oxygenation. The aeration system also guarantees a more efficient composting process due to its inherent moisture recirculation feature.
- It is easy to build
- It uses upcycled material
- It is vermin resistant
- It requires no accessories or tools to operate
- Its low cost
4. WHAT TO COMPOST?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What to compost?</th>
<th>Greens</th>
<th>Vegetable scrubs, cooked food, food leftovers, tea bags, coffee grounds, and garden waste.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Browns</td>
<td>Dry leaves, straws, sawdust, shredded newspaper, shredded cardboard, wood, and pine needle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What not to compost?</td>
<td>Inorganic materials (plastic, glass...), raw Fish, raw meat, bones, dairy products, gums, pet droppings.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. HOW TO COMPOST

- Start your composting process by adding a 10 cm layer of dried leaves or paper (we call those **browns**) to the barrel.
- Collect the waste from the kitchen and chop it into small pieces to accelerate the composting process. (we call those **greens**)
- Weigh the chopped green waste and record the weight.
- Weight 0.16 kg of brown for every 1 kg of greens.
- Add the greens and browns in thin alternating layers.
- Close the compost bin.
- Keep adding waste (greens and browns) until the bin is completely filled.

6. HOW TO CHECK IF THE COMPOST IS MATURE?

The compost is finished when it looks like soil, it has a dark brown color and an earthy odor. The end of the composting process is indicated by a constant temperature.
7. MONITORING PARAMETERS
To ensure a good quality final product, monitor regularly the following parameters:
> pH
> Moisture
> Temperature
> Height of compost
> Type of food added, insects and, the odor produced.

Note: You can find a single sensor that monitors pH, moisture and temperature at many hardware stores. You will need a measuring tape to monitor the height of the compost and a scale to weigh your green and brown inputs.

Sharing your data can help others start composting too! Share your results at the following link: http://nccdataportal.000webhostapp.com/
7.2. WEBAPP USAGE

Compost data submission
You must be logged in to view this page.

Click to sign in

Login

Insert the password

Username
yourusername

Password
yourpassword

Click

SUBMIT

Insert your username
Add to Composter

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food Weight (Kg)</th>
<th>Paper Weight (Kg)</th>
<th>Compost Height (cm)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weight of food waste (Kg)</td>
<td>Weight of paper (Kg)</td>
<td>Height of compost (cm)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Description**
  - Select...

- **Smell**
  - Select...

- **Insects**
  - Select...

- **Temperature**
  - Temperature (°C)

- **pH**
  - pH...

- **Moisture**
  - Select...

**SUBMIT**

- **Record your compost data here**
- **Click**

Make sure this message appears after inputting your data:

**Data added successfully.**

**View Result**
8. PROBLEMS?

8.1 Compost Smells like Rotten Eggs or Ammonia

Too much green material – If you have too much green material in your compost pile, it will smell like rotten eggs or ammonia. This indicates that your compost mixture of browns and greens is off balance. Adding browns such as leaves, newspaper, and straw will help bring your compost pile back into balance.

Layering – Sometimes a compost pile has the right balance of green and brown material, but these materials have been placed into the compost bin in thick layers. If the green material is isolated from the brown material, it will start to decompose incorrectly and will start to give off a bad smell. If this occurs, the compost pile will smell like sewage or ammonia. Fixing this is only a matter of mixing the pile a bit better.

Compost pile is compacted – Compost piles need oxygen (aeration) to decompose the organic material properly. If your compost pile gets compacted, the compost will start to smell. Compost that has too little aeration, will smell putrid or like rotten eggs. Turn the compost pile to help get air into the compost and stop the bad smell. You can do this with a small shovel or even a stick. You may also want to add some “fluffy” materials like dry leaves or dry grass to help keep the pile from over-compacting again.

Too much moisture – A compost pile that gets too wet will not have enough aeration and will also result in over compaction. Compost that is too wet will smell putrid or like rotten eggs and will look slimy, especially the green material. To account for this, turn the compost and add some dry brown materials to absorb some of the moisture.

8.2 Compost Is Too Wet or Compost Barrel Is Leaking

Too much green material – If the compost is too wet, then you have to add dry leaves or other brown materials, and turn the compost in the barrel.

8.3 Fruit Flies and Other Flying Insects

Green materials are exposed – In order to get rid of these flying insects, cover the compost pile with a layer of browns.

8.4 Slow Degradation and Nothing Is Changing

Too dry - If the compost is very dry, this means that you have a great amount of browns in your compost. You have to add greens and water to the compost.

Too cold – If the compost in the barrel does not reach a temperature greater than 40 degrees Celsius, then no degradation will occur. If the temperature is relatively low, add more greens, turn the compost pile, and place the barrel in a sunnier spot.
9. BUILD IT YOUR OWN

The following design specifications can be used to build your own easy-to-use household composter at a much lower cost!
Anwar Al Shami

AUB-NCC in-vessel composter
AUB-NCC in-vessel composter

Anwar Al Shami

DESIGN

A4

SIZE

DWG NO

REV

SCALE

0.2 : 1

SHEET 3 OF 9
AUB-NCC in-vessel composter

Design:

Anwar Al Shami

Title:

AUB-NCC in-vessel composter

Size:

A4

Scale:

0.15:1
Anwar Al Shami

AUB-NCC in-vessel composter

DESIGN

SIZE
A4

SCALE
1 / 2

SHEET 9 OF 9

200