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# **Composting For Dummies**





### Synopsis

Back-to-basics gardening that will benefit the earth and your wallet! Want to use ordinary waste to create an extraordinary garden? Composting lets you turn household food waste, yard clippings, and more into free compost and mulch that's chock-full of nutrients. From building and working with traditional compost bins to starting an indoor worm-composting operation, Composting For Dummies makes these often intimidating projects easy, fun, and accessible for anyone! Digging into compost basics — get a handle on the benefits of composting and the tools you'll need to get started Choosing the best method and location — find the best composting method and location that's right for you, whether it's above ground, in a hole, in a container or bin, or even right in your kitchen Building your pile — learn which ingredients can go into your compost pile, what stays out, and how to mix it all up in the right proportions Stepping beyond traditional composting — get the lowdown on vermicomposting (letting worms eat your garbage), growing green manures to compost later, and sheet composting in the same spot you plan to plant Open the book and find: A step-by-step guide to composting The right gear and tools for the job Tips on constructing your own composting containers and bins Materials you can safely compost (and those to avoid) Cover crops to improve your soil now and compost later Recommendations for using your finished compost What worms contribute to your compost Troubleshooting advice if your compost pile isn't cooperating Learn to: Turn household food waste, yard clippings, and more into nutrient-rich compost Build and maintain your own compost bin Use worms to aid in composting, both indoors and out Give your vegetable and flower gardens a boost of energy

#### **Book Information**

Paperback: 224 pages Publisher: For Dummies; 1 edition (February 8, 2010) Language: English ISBN-10: 0470581611 ISBN-13: 978-0470581612 Product Dimensions: 6.2 x 0.5 x 9.3 inches Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies) Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 41 customer reviews Best Sellers Rank: #217,579 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #45 in Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Civil & Environmental > Environmental > Waste Management #141 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > By Technique > Organic

#### **Customer Reviews**

Cathy Cromell is a Regional Reporter for the National Gardening Association. She is a certified Master Gardener, Master Composter, and Master Entomologist. The National Gardening Association is the leading garden-based educational nonprofit organization in the United States.

I am not a huge fan of the "Dummies" books, but this one is excellent. It provides lots of information about composting and clearly shows where you can just get the basics and skip all the background. For those who want to know more than the basics, more in-depth material is very clear. The author is an experienced gardener and composter who understands the different needs for successful composting in climates varying from the upper midwest to the arid deserts of Arizona. Highly recommended for those looking to get started composting kitchen scraps and lawn and garden cuttings.

I am not a gardener but my wife goes a little nuts with her plants, trees, vegetables, flowers and more and, we have a lot of leaves to take care of and, we re-cycle fairly vigorously so... I bought this book as a starter since it will be I who will build the bins. I have come to rely on the "For Dummies" series as they are a great way to get started with a lot of things and this one is no exception. All you need to know and all you didn't even know you needed to know is in this book. If you're new to composting, this is the book for you. Recommended.

Not as good as I thought it should be. Dirt is dirt! I had other types of dummy books on other stuff got more out it. much more info.

Need to learn more about composting, and this has helped!

This book did not help me I went on the NYC website much better information for me.

Good book for just about any type of composting that you intend to do. I was able to use this book to start a fairly large project in which we started composting at our state prison - it worked great and we now compost tons and I do mean tons, of food scraps that are eventually used on our flower and vegetable garden!

Was somewhat helpful for me as an amateur but I felt there was a lot more to know. Perhaps that is just the structure of these "Dummies" books. I guess I'm a "Dummie" and this is all the content I can handle.

Great beginners book and worth obtaining if you are into more of the old fashion way of doing things. Highly recommended.

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