



CITY OF PALMERSTON

COMPOSTING *at your place*



**ABOUT HALF OF
WHAT WE THROW INTO THE RUBBISH IS
FOOD AND GARDEN VEGETATION.**

COMPOSTING at your place

SUPER CHEAP AND SUPER EASY DIY COMPOSTING

Buying a compost bin can be a bit daunting when the cost can be anywhere from \$40 - \$400 however you can create your own at home for as little as \$0 with just a few simple, recycled items. Composting doesn't have to be difficult or expensive. It really is as simple and cheap as you want to make it.



1. BUCKET COMPOSTER

Grab an old bucket with a lid – 20 Litre ones are good. If you don't have one ask your local takeaway shop to keep one for you as they usually buy their mayonnaise and other items in these bulk drums. Drill holes about 3mm minimum in size randomly all over the bucket and base. This will give good air flow and allow your compost to "breathe".

Place bucket on the ground in a convenient place (like near the kitchen door) and fill with scraps. Give bucket a shake every now and then and keep moist by adding leftover tea or coffee. For optimum compost action you need to maintain a moisture level of approximately 50%.



2. STRAW BALE COMPOSTER

Get 4 bales of hay/straw and lay on ground in a square formation.

Fill with scraps. Simple as that! Obviously you can add more bales if you want a bigger composter.



3. MILK CRATE STACKING COMPOSTER

Get 3 milk crates and using a hot glue gun cover the sides from the inside of the crate with scraps of mesh/flyscreen/shadecloth or other permeable material to stop compost falling out. Stack on top of each other and cover with a lid made from scraps of wood, a piece of tin or any other suitable item. Great for small spaces.



4. WIRE MESH COMPOSTER

Using scraps of chicken wire or fencing mesh and a couple of stakes such as metal offcuts or decent branches from pruning create a wire circle and stake it to the ground. Super simple and easy!



5. PALLETS AND MESH COMPOSTER

Use 3 wooden pallets and nail scraps of mesh/shadecloth/flyscreen etc to each side to stop compost falling through. Join the 3 pallets together in an open ended square using whatever you might have on hand – nails, stakes and wire, fancy carpentry techniques or any other method that will keep them together.

6. TUMBLING COMPOSTER

For those that are very handy a tumbling composter made from an old 44 gallon drum or large plastic drum could be a good project. Instructions are easily found online and can be as simple or as complex as you would like.

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