

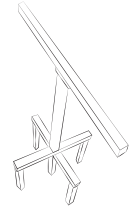
Zero waste campus + House keeping + Composting + Road sweeping + E-waste

COMPOST YOUR WASTE!!

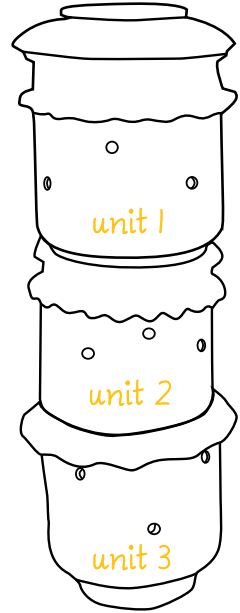
Its not that hard with a
SWaCH composter!



Contents of the Kit



- **Aerator:** Use this to air out your pile once a day. Made out of metal, this product is durable and ensures that you get deep into your pile
- **Sawdust (2 kgs):** Sawdust can be used to keep your pile from getting too wet. If you don't have dry leaves add a little sawdust daily along with your waste to keep the moisture at desired levels
- **Culture powder (250 grams):** Hastens the decomposition
- **Compost (Sample pack 50 gms):** A sample of what your compost should look like. This can also be added to hasten the decomposition process
- **Tomato seeds (50 grams):** A little gift from us to get your garden going after that first batch of compost!!



Getting started

Prepare your composter:

Line unit 1 and 2 with paper (preferably brown paper/or paper without ink). This prevents the organic waste from falling into the last unit. Eventually the paper will decompose when the unit is full. Remember to replace the paper when you empty the unit!

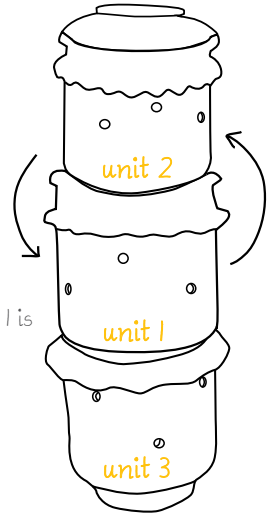
Start composting!

Daily: Put waste in the top unit and add dried leaves/saw dust. When you start, add equal volume of dry leaves. Adjust the quantity of the leaves as you go along, so as to retain the moisture.

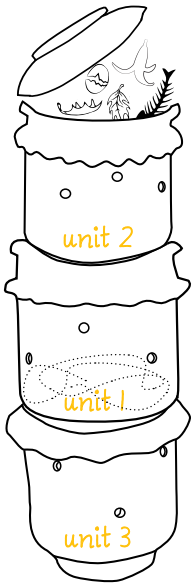




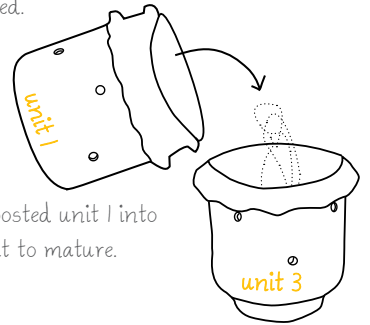
1. Open the top most unit (1) and begin adding organic waste.



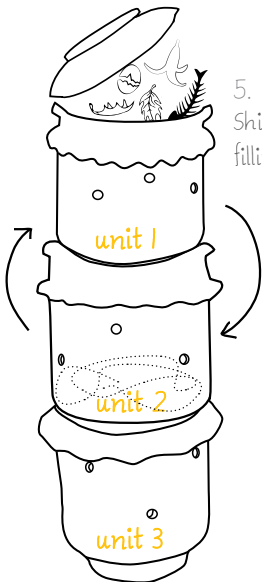
2. Keep adding waste till Unit 1 is 3/4 full. When unit 1 is full interchange it with unit 2.



3. Start filling unit 2 (now the top most unit). As you are doing this organic waste in unit 1 will start reducing and it will become semi composted.



4. Empty semi composted unit 1 into unit 3 and leave it to mature.



5. Shift empty unit 1 back to the top and start filling it, simultaneously shift unit 2 to the middle.

Once the compost is ready, sieve it and store it for one month before use. You will know your compost is ready when it smells like freshly dug earth and is a little moist! Put the large bits back into unit 1.

Add water and accelerator (1 teaspoon microbial culture/urine/cow-dung/ semi-done compost) to the stored pile once a week.



And you're done!!

What takes long to compost?
Mango seeds, bones, big branches take about 3 cycles to decompose

If your diet has a lot of lime, you will need to add baking soda every week in all the units to keep the acidity in check (3 tablespoons everyweek in each unit)

What can go wrong:

Problem

Possible reasons and solutions

A wet, smelly pile!

Equal amounts of dried leaves/sawdust/shredded paper has not been added

Compacted pile

Not enough dry leaves etc have been added, the pile has not been stirred

Maggots!!!

Not enough neem or turmeric powder has been added. Add 2 table spoons of either neem or turmeric powder in all containers every week.



Soldier fly maggots are actually great for compost heaps. They look repulsive, but are harmless and actually suppress the ecocycle of the house-fly which is the pest carrying fly!! 3 tablespoons of chilli powder in each container should keep them at bay if you find them too icky!

Fruit flies

The pile has not been covered adequately with paper/leaves/sawdust. Fully cover the surface of the waste so that flies have nowhere to sit on!

Smell

Mix enough compost and dry leaves in the waste

A dry pile

Not enough water is sprinkled.. make sure the pile is moist.. not soggy!

Why compost?

- Compost is an inexpensive, natural process that transforms your kitchen and garden waste into valuable food for your garden
- Composting is one way of getting an eco housing clearance where you can avail 5% rebate on property tax
- Composting also helps the environment as it diverts wet waste from landfills where it would decompose anaerobically (without air), thus producing methane, a green house gas 20 times more dangerous than carbon dioxide