

Hints for use of Plastic Compost Bins

Plastic compost bins are anaerobic which means they don't use much air and work a bit differently to compost heaps. They are slower to mature and generally have much more nitrogen or green waste in them than compost heaps. Plastic bins are suitable for kitchen waste and the green waste from small urban gardens. They are ideal for avoiding rats and mice in the compost.

- Layer the bin alternatively with:
 - Hay at the bottom;
 - A layer of soil;
 - A sprinkle of lime per bucket of kitchen waste;
 - Grass clippings in a thin layer.

- Use the bins directly on the soil.
- Keep the bin in a shady place to avoid overheating. A bit of winter sun is ok.
- Dig the base into the soil to deter rats and mice.
- Use fresh grass clippings sparingly - a thin layer alternated with other greens.
- Tiger worms can also be added to speed up the process.
- When the bin is full, allow the material to finish composting for at least 3 weeks before removing the bin, and then a few weeks to mature before applying to the garden.