

Solving Composting Problems



| Problem | Cause | Solution |
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| Slimy and smelly | Not enough air and too wet due to too much green waste | Turn compost to increase air circulation Add carbon-rich waste: e.g. dry leaves, straw, wood shavings, paper Add 250g of garden lime Cover heap during rain |
| Heap moist, but the volume is not increasing despite adding new material | Lack of nitrogen in waste, causing 'pancaking' | Add nitrogen-rich green waste, e.g. lawn clippings, animal manure, blood and bone |
| Slow decay | Not enough nutrients | Add 250g of blood and bone or another nitrogen-based fertiliser |
| | Not enough air | turn the heap more often |
| | Not enough water | moisten the heap |
| | Too cold in winter | cover the heap with insulation material (e.g. carpet or hessian) |
| Maggots | meat, seafood, fats or faeces in the heap | Remove the cause Cover the maggots with lime Add soil to the top of the heap Turn the heap the next day |
| Heap warm and moist in centre only | Heap too small to insulate itself, or not enough air circulating | Make the heap bigger Rebuild in a more sheltered area Turn the heap to increase air flow. This should increase the temperature |

For More Information Contact

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