



Compost Lasagne Recipe

This resource provides instructions for a composting activity, a regular part of many kitchen garden classes, describing what to add in each layer of your 'compost lasagne'. The quantities here are the minimum for a complete layer; repeat them for every subsequent layer.

Equipment:

- Garden gloves
- Ready compost bays
- Garden forks
- 2 buckets or more of 'browns' (carbon material)
 - dry leaves, shredded paper, straw
- 1 or more of 'activators'
 - choose from 1 bucket manure, 2 cups Rooster Booster, 1 cup blood and bone, small handful of complete fertiliser (such as Rocket Fuel)
- 1 bucket or more of 'greens'
 - kitchen veggie scraps, fresh lawn clippings, green garden waste
- Watering can or hose
- Additional soil

What to do:

1. Add two buckets of browns to the bottom of the compost bay, spreading them evenly.
2. Add one activator item and water through thoroughly.
3. Add one bucket of greens and water again.
4. Cover this with a 1 cm layer of soil.
5. Continue this layering, or 'lasagne', method until you have used up your materials.
6. When the pile reaches optimum height of 1 m – so that it becomes 1 m³ in volume – it will heat up in the middle. You can monitor the temperature of the pile. As the temperature reduces, it is time to turn the compost into the next bay and start the process again.

Do not include perennial weeds, poisonous plants, really tough or leathery leaves, infected or diseased plant material, anything that is very acidic (i.e. pine needles), too much citrus or any meat, dairy or bread products.

