

Composting Cheat Sheet

2 Parts Browns (Dead, dry)

From outside:

- Pine needs, twigs, small branches
- Dry leaves plant material
- Straw and hay
- Spent potting soil



From inside:

- Bread and uncooked grains
- Food-soiled paper
- Shredded paper, newspaper
- 100% cotton



1 Part Green (Fresh, moist)

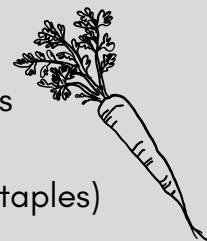
From outside:

- Green plants and trimmings
- Fresh leaves and flowers
- Grass clippings
- Herbivore manure



From inside:

- Fruit and vegetable scraps
- Coffee grounds
- Tea, paper tea bags (no staples)
- Flower cuttings



Handy Add-ons

- Add crushed eggshell to compost or soil
- Add wood ash directly to acidic soil

Keys to Happy Compost

Think small	Small pieces compost faster
Aerate	Turn your compost frequently
Discourage pests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don't compost no-no's • Hide food scraps
Balance moisture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add greens or water to dry pile • Turn pile or add browns to overly wet/smelly pile
Mind temp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cold slows down decay • Temps above 160F kill decomposers

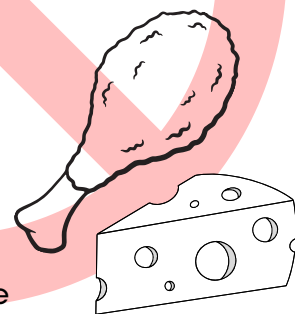
Composting No-Nos

From outside:

- Coal, charcoal ashes
- Construction materials
- Diseased plant parts
- Weeds with seeds, poison ivy
- Anything with pesticides or herbicides

From inside:

- Meat or fish
- Cheese, dairy
- Fats and oils
- Glossy paper
- Kitty litter, pet waste



Done? Now what?

- May take weeks to years, depending
- Finished compost looks & smells earthy
- Use on flower and vegetable beds
- Combine with potting mix
- Brew and spray compost tea