

# How to use the Maze Tumbling Composter

One of the fastest and most effective ways to make compost is by using a composter that allows for as much aeration as possible. This is best done with a tumbling composter which thoroughly mixes all the organic waste on a regular basis.

With any composter that turns or mixes compost, adding new waste to maturing compost means you cannot access just the mature compost as it is mixed in. This of course means that in order to have only mature compost you need to wait up to 2-3 months without adding any new waste.

The Maze Tumbler overcomes this problem with the use of an extension that comes with the stand, which allows for the simultaneous use of two 100lt barrels. This design ensures that the first compost bin can be filled and left to mature while the second is then filled with new waste. This ensures that you can still recycle your waste and continuously create compost while using one of the fastest composting methods.

## **Step 1**

Select a location for your Tumbler, ensure it's on a level surface and has adequate room to turn (away from fences, walls ect). Try to put the tumbler in a sunny location preferably with afternoon sun, this will speed up the composting process.

## **Step 2**

When adding your organic matter make sure you follow 'The Compost Recipe'. Basically this means to divide everything into a 'Green' and 'Brown' category and add them at a 50 / 50 ratio (50% Green and 50% Brown). The following will help you to determine what is classified as green and what is classified as brown.

### **Green**

Citrus Peel  
Cut Flowers  
Egg shell  
Grass clippings  
Fresh hedge clippings  
Tea Leaves / Tea Bags  
Vegetable Scraps

### **Brown**

Autumn Leaves  
Cardboard / Newspaper (be sure to shed or crumble)  
Coffee Grounds (don't add liquid, only grounds)  
Straw  
Sawdust  
Corn Cobs (best to cut up before adding)  
Twigs / Small branches (no thicker than 2cm)

Also try to layer each of the green and brown material. This will help everything mix together when you tumble the unit.

If you find that your compost is too dry you can add water to overcome this, if you find your compost is too wet try adding shredded paper or something from the 'Brown' list. Although having your composter in a sunny position does speed up the process it also dries out a lot quicker, so make sure to keep up that 50 /50 balance.

## **Step 3**

Make sure that your lid strap is securely fitted. Once you have added equal amounts of your 'greens' and 'browns' turn your drum half a rotation so the lid is pointing towards the ground (this allows the bar in the middle to break up any clumps), repeat this step 4 – 5 times.

## **Step 4**

Ensure you turn your drum every 2 – 3 days, this allows everything to mix together as well as adding much needed air to help everything break down. It's important not to overfill your composter. Only ever fill the drum to two-thirds, this will allow adequate room for everything to mix thoroughly.

## **Step 5**

You can tell if the compost is ready to use when it turns into a crumbly soil consistency. If you fill the drum to two-thirds before it's ready to use it's still very important to rotate the drum regularly. If you follow these instructions correctly you will have rich nutritious compost ready to use in approximately 2 – 3 months, even quicker in some cases.

Because you are rotating the drum on a regular basis you will be mixing new material with older decomposed material. You may want to add a second drum to your stand so you can let one drum mature while you add new material to the second. This way you can compost 365 days of the year.