

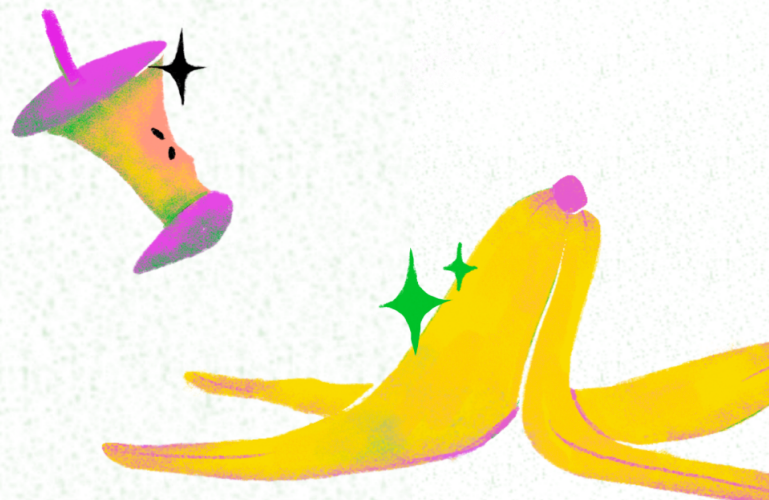
Complete guide to composting at home

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Transformation of waste into useful compost:

The complete guide to composting at home

Welcome to the world of composting, where kitchen scraps and organic yard waste become nutritious humus for your garden and potted plants! Composting is not only good for the environment but also extremely cost-effective. Composting is a natural way of recycling organic materials, kitchen scraps, and yard waste, into a valuable addition to the soil known as compost or humus. By composting at home, you can reduce waste, reduce the need for frequent emptying of the bin, enrich your soil, and contribute to a healthier environment.

In this guide, we will take you through the process of composting in the yard using a bin and Bokashi-effective microorganisms - Eko EM Plus. Microorganisms play a key role in this process of breaking down materials through natural decomposition.

At home, composting starts with collecting kitchen scraps such as fruit and vegetable peels, coffee grounds, and eggshells, along with yard waste such as leaves, grass clippings and twigs. These materials provide the necessary balance of carbon and nitrogen for the composting process.

→ Step 1: Receive your composting kit

As part of our composting initiative, households from the territories of the municipalities of Danilovgrad and Tuzi, who have a yard and are willing to compost their organic waste in the yard, will receive a composting kit that contains a bin with a carbon filter for disposing of kitchen waste and Bokashi liquid with an effective microorganisms - Eko EM Plus that accelerates the composting process. These bins are compact, odor-resistant, and easy to use, making composting convenient for everyone.

→ Step 2: Building a compost site in your yard

First, you need to determine a place for compost in your yard. Choose an easily accessible spot with good drainage. This is where you will dispose of the contents of the kitchen waste bin when it is full, as well as your garden waste. It is not necessary to fence off the compost site, but if you want, you can use materials you already have, such as wire, boards, pallets, or blocks. It is only important that there is enough airflow and moisture.



→ Step 3: What goes into the compost?

Start by collecting organic waste.

Two types of waste can go into compost, classified as "green" and "brown" organic matter:

Nitrogen-rich ("green") materials	Materials rich in carbon ("brown"):
Fruits and vegetables	Dry leaves
Grass clippings	Plant stems and twigs
Coffee grounds	Shredded paper (non-glossy, uncolored) and shredded brown paper bags
Paper tea bags (without staples)	Shredded cardboard (no wax coating, tape, or glue)
Crushed eggshells	Untreated wood (no nails)

What should not be composted:

- Meat products and fats: These can attract pests and cause an unpleasant smell;
- Pet waste: Feces from dogs or cats are not suitable for composting due to the risk of spreading disease;
- Treated wood and paints: Materials that have been treated with chemicals are not suitable for composting.

*[*Here](#) you can access the complete table of types of organic waste for composting (last page)*

→ Step 4: Kitchen bin with carbon filter

This bin can be placed in the kitchen or any other place that is convenient for you. In the composting bin, you collect all the organic waste generated in the kitchen (fruit and vegetable peels, crushed eggshells, coffee grounds). Once you've filled the bin, empty it into your yard's compost bin with other garden waste, and spread it evenly. Continue to do the same process the next time your kitchen compost bin fills up.

→ Step 5: Bokashi liquid with effective microorganisms (Eko EM Plus) to speed up the composting process

Over the next period, your composting site will gradually fill up. Once filled, you will quickly notice a decrease in the volume of the material due to decomposition. This is a sign that your composting efforts have paid off!

Spray Bokashi Effective Microorganisms over each layer to start the composting process and speed up decomposition. When adding a new layer of organic waste to the bin, spray it with Bokashi liquid with effective microorganisms. For this purpose, it is best to make a solution of "Eko EM Plus" and water in a ratio of 1:100 in favor of water. (10 ml of Eco EM Plus per 1 liter of water). Do the same when adding a new layer of waste to the compost site in the yard. These useful and effective microorganisms are constantly working to break down organic matter into nutritious compost. They speed up the composting process and make it easier, faster, and safer, preventing rotting and the emission of harmful gasses.

- Detailed instructions for using Bokashi liquid (Eko EM Plus) can be found [here](#)
- Find answers to frequently asked questions about Bokashi liquid [here](#)
- Enhancing Composting with Microorganisms: The Bokashi Method found [here](#)

→ Step 6: Maintenance Tips

Maintain your backyard compost pile by turning it regularly to aerate the materials and promote decomposition. If you notice that the compost is dry, add a little water to maintain optimal composting conditions. Your compost pile will warm up, indicating that microorganisms are working to break down the material.

**[Here](#) you can find answers to the most frequently asked questions and how to solve potential problems that can occur during composting*

→ Step 7: Using your compost

After a few months of composting, your pile will turn into nutritious compost or humus ready for use in your garden. You'll know compost is ready to use if it has a dark, crumbly texture and an earthy smell. If you want, you can sift the compost to remove materials that have not fully decomposed. Spread the finished compost around your plants, mix it into the soil, or use it as a natural fertilizer to feed plants in the garden.

→ Step 7: Enjoying the benefits

By composting at home with the help of microorganisms, less waste ends up in the landfill, you empty your trash bin less often, enrich your soil, improve plant growth, and reduce the need for chemical fertilizers.

