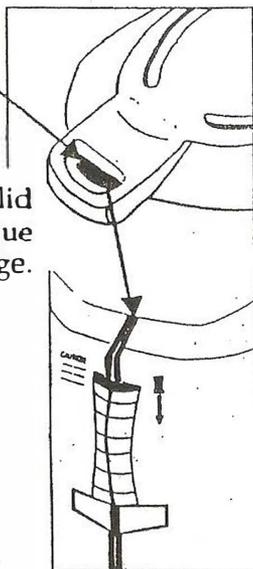


Assembly Instructions (continued)

Set the lid on top, placing the handle lid (A) tongue below where the two body halves meet. To secure the lid, slide the lid lock from open to the lock position.

(B) Slide lid handle tongue under body edge.



The HOME COMPOSTER™

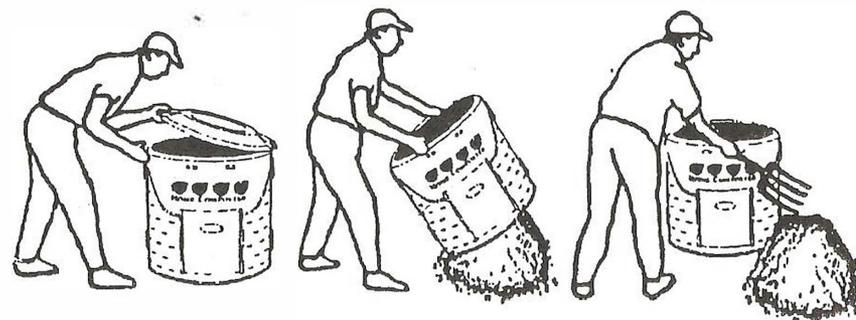
Composting recycles leaves, grass, yard trimmings, and vegetative scraps from the kitchen into humus, a valuable amendment that improves the fertility and health of your soil. The HOME COMPOSTER™ has several features to assist and to speed up the decomposition process.

- The bin easily disassembles to facilitate turning, aerating, and harvesting.
- The locking lid with rain catchment system helps maintain ideal moisture.
- The two doors allow the monitoring of compost and the harvesting of small quantities. The unique design allows the doors to stay in upright position when opened.

The process of decomposition occurs naturally on the forest floor, without turning or aerating. Enclosed compost bins mimic this natural system with optimal dark and damp conditions for decay. However, turning and aerating can speed up the composting process. The HOME COMPOSTER™ gives you several easy options to turn, mix, and/or harvest your pile.

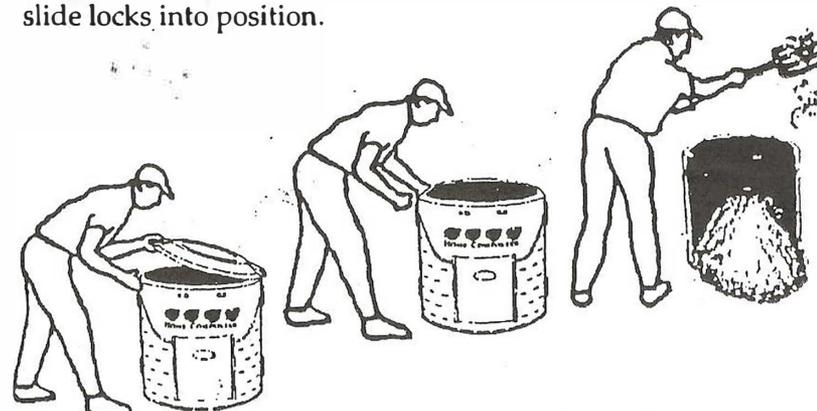
Lifting the Unit Off the Pile

The bin's large opening makes it convenient to turn and mix materials from the top. But if you prefer to move the bin, it's very important to **remove the lid** before lifting the HOME COMPOSTER™ so as not to stress the lid locks. Then lift the unit off the ground and set it next to the pile. Next, pitchfork the pile back into the bin. Depending on time and conditions, the bottom portion of the compost may be ready to harvest.



Separating the Body Halves

When separating the two body halves, it's important to **always remove all four slide locks**. Then move one body half away from the pile. Large quantities of finished compost can now be harvested from the bottom of the pile. Then place the two body halves together and slide the four slide locks into position.



Building the Pile

Once you have your HOME COMPOSTER™ set up, you are ready to build your first pile.

Build the pile with green and brown materials of approximately equal volume. Kitchen scraps (remember, no meat) and grass clippings are examples of green materials. Dry leaves, cardboard, and wood chips are examples of browns.

Adding Materials

You can add material at any time. Remember to always bury fresh kitchen scraps in the middle of the pile, covering them with partially decomposed material. No meat, bones, or fish should be included.

Speeding Up the Process

- Chop or shred materials, especially if they are dry or woody.
- Turn the pile.
- Keep the pile moist to accelerate the composting process.

Harvesting Your Compost

Finished compost is dark brown, crumbly, and moist, with a pleasant, earthy aroma. Large pieces can be screened out and returned to a fresh pile.

Using Your Compost

You can use your compost as a *soil amendment* by digging it into the earth, as a *mulch* by spreading it around plants, or as an ingredient in *potting mix*.

Please refer to your copy of *Backyard Composting: Your Complete Guide to Recycling Yard Clippings* for more how-to information.

The HOME COMPOSTER™

Your HOME COMPOSTER™

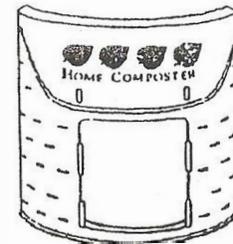


Assembly Instructions

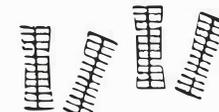
Unpack the following onto a soft, level surface (on soil) near where you want to set up your bin. Both sun and shade are OK.



Lid (1)



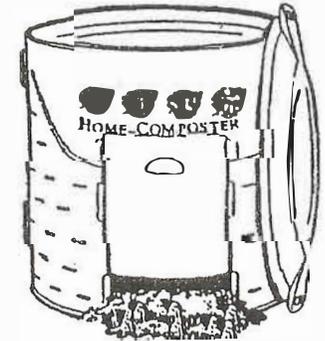
Sides (2)



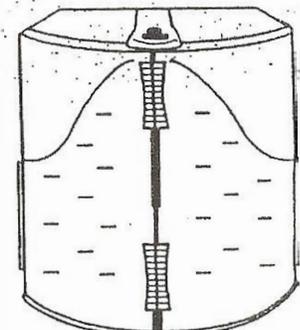
Slide Locks (4)



Doors (2)



Lid lock can latch on bin for easy access



Place the two sides together, aligning the small nubs on each side with their seats. Starting at the top, guide one slide lock into place over the seam and into the locked position. Then repeat this for the lower slide lock on that same side. When both slide locks are in place, repeat the procedure on the opposite side, starting at the top.