

# MICRO-COMPOSTER INSTRUCTIONS

Try making your own compost with this DIY experiment using everyday items.

## Materials

- 1 empty two-liter soda bottle
- Sharp knife
- Nail
- Shredded newspaper
- Dirt (not potting soil, use dirt from outside)
- Compost materials (grass clippings, vegetable scraps)
- Small handful of dead leaves
- Flat dish to hold composter
- Spray bottle with water



## Directions

1. Rinse the bottle and peel off the label.
2. Cut off the top of the bottle, approximately 1-2" inches below the neck of the bottle. Set the top aside.
3. Use a nail to punch 8 to 10 small air and drainage holes along the sides and bottom of the bottle.
4. Put the bottle on the tray. Put some dirt, shredded newspaper and old leaves inside the composter. This is your compost starter.
5. Use the spray bottle to wet the compost starter.
6. You're ready to add to your compost! (Try grass clippings, vegetable scraps, coffee grounds, or eggshells, but do not add dairy or meat.)
7. Turn the bottle top upside down and place it in the open top of the bottle. It will act like a funnel for adding a little bit of water each day to keep the contents damp.
8. Place in a spot where sunlight can reach it. Cover the top of your compost with a kitchen towel when not in use.
9. Check the composter each day. Every few days, stir the compost and make sure to keep the contents damp. As your compost breaks down, you can add more kitchen scraps or plant litter, as well as some more soil from outside to mix in. You might see fluffy mold growing – so keep your compost covered when you're not working with it.
10. Bonus: Take your rich, healthy soil, place it in a pot, add a seed and some water and grow your very own plant!