



How to Make and Use Compost

The practical guide for home, schools and communities

By Nicky Scott

Keynote

This is the ultimate guide to composting. Find out how to compost in different ways for the home or community, what to compost and why it is such a good idea.

Description

Composting is easy and fun, it saves you money and helps you grow lovely plants. More importantly, it is good for the environment, as it massively reduces the amount of noxious methane gas generated from burying food waste in landfill. It's great for the soil and a great way to learn about nature. Written by Nicky Scott, the author of *Reduce, Reuse, Recycle*, this book shows you how to go about composting.

Nicky is an activist who has been teaching composting for years. He explains why making compost is so important for healthy soil and the environment, how it works and how to make your own compost, in spaces big and small. He shows how different composting systems work including cold composting, wormeries, bokashi and hot boxes. He gives guidance on the most appropriate system for your site, whether you're composting in a garden or a kitchen.

In *How to Make and Use Compost*, he explains:

- why making compost is so important for healthy soil and the environment
- how it works
- how to make your own compost in spaces big and small
- how different composting systems work
- the best system for your site, whether you're composting in a garden or a kitchen.

The book features an A-Z guide to what you can and cannot compost, composting techniques, common problems and their solutions. A is for Activators (such as manures, nettles and coffee grounds), Additives, Alkalinity and Ant; C is for Carbon-to-nitrogen ratio and Cardboard; O is for Odor and Oils (cooking oil can be composted in small quantities); and Z is for the excellent Zoo poo from the elephant or rhinoceros enclosures if you're lucky enough to have a zoo nearby!

The book also describes how to compost food waste on a large scale, e.g. for hotels, restaurants or cafés. Composting cooked food needs more care as it is devoid of microbial life, but even large quantities can be safely composted through "continuous throughout" or "batch" systems, which Nicky explains in detail.

Schools are also a rewarding place to start composting, as it enhances garden areas, reduces waste and gives children a great hands-on learning experience. Nicky advises on planning a school scheme, how to first reduce food waste and what to do with the many paper towels a school generates - everything to get a school scheme started.

How to Make and Use Compost includes an extensive list of resources, including websites, organizations, books and where to buy equipment.

Audience

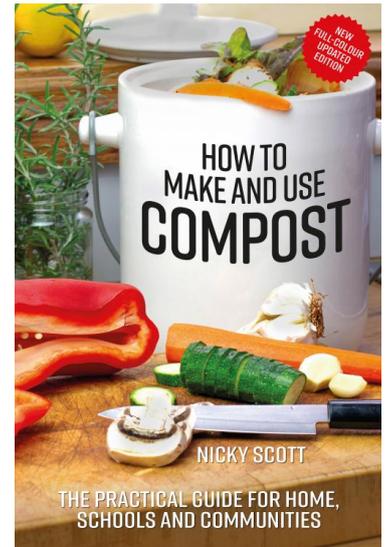
For all those interested in sustainable gardening and composting.

Table of Contents

Introduction

PART ONE

1 Why make compost?



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- 2 How does it work?
- 3 Making successful compost
- 4 Choosing the right composting system
- 5 Composting with worms
- 6 Using your compost
- 7 Community composting

PART TWO

- 8 A-Z Guide

PART THREE

- 9 Composting food waste on a large scale
- 10 Composting in schools

Resources

The Author

Nicky Scott is the author of several books on composting and recycling. He advises schools, local authorities and businesses on composting kitchen waste and helps set up community composting groups. The “hot box” composter he developed is widely used for composting food waste.

Review Quotes

Written with flair, this book will give you confidence as a beginner or improve your technique if you're a habitual composter.

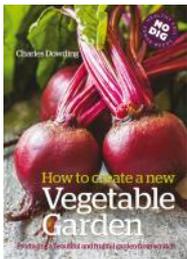
The Ecologist

Clearly written and cross-referenced, this book draws on a wide composting experience.

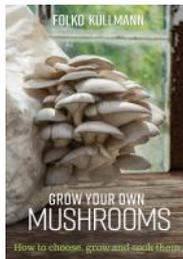
Sue Stickland, author of Back Garden Seed Saving

... tells you everything you need to know about compost systems, wormeries and the incredible value of compost.

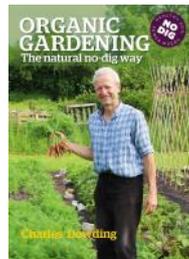
Western Daily Press



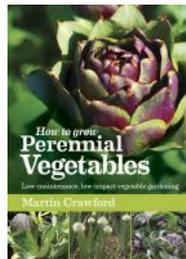
How to Create a New Vegetable Garden



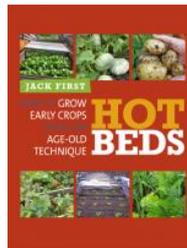
Grow Your Own Mushrooms



Organic Gardening



How to Grow Perennial Vegetables



Hot Beds