

COMPOST SOURCES: 2011

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<u>Source</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Brown or Green</u>	<u>Example</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Animal grease	NO	NA	Cooking	Attracts pests: bears, cats, crows, dogs, foxes, opossums, raccoons, rodents, skunks.
Ashes	NO	B	Fireplace, wood-burning stove, charcoal grill	Suppresses composting.
Beverages	YES	Neutral	Coffee, tea, fruit, vegetable	Moisten the middle of the pile.
Black walnut tree waste	NO	B	Leaves, branches	Releases poison harmful to plants.
Coffee grounds & filters, tea bags	YES	G	With or without the filter	Mix or layer at 1/4". Remove metal staples.
Cornstalks & cobs	YES	B		Chop as small as you can to hasten decomposition.
Dairy	NO	NA	Cheese, milk	Attracts pests: bears, cats, crows, dogs, foxes, opossums, raccoons, rodents, skunks.
Diseased plants	YES NO	B or G	Black spot, powdery mildew	Will infect plants in a cold pile but is killed in a hot pile of 135-160° F.
Dog & cat waste	NO	NA	Poop & clay litter	Disease transmitter.
Dryer lint	NO	NA	Fluff	May contain synthetics, which do not decompose readily.
Eggs	NO	G	Raw or cooked	Attracts pests: bears, cats, crows, dogs, foxes, opossums, raccoons, rodents, skunks.
Eggshells	YES	Neutral		Rinsed & crushed. Salmonella from contaminated eggshells is killed in a hot pile of 135-150° F.
Evergreen pruning	YES	G	Needles from Christmas tree	Small amounts. Twigs will decompose slowly and provide air spaces.
Fabric	YES	B	Clothing, linens	Clean shredded 100% cotton and wool.
Feathers	YES	B	Pillows, down clothing	Clean
Fish	NO	G	Cooked & uncooked	Attracts pests: bears, cats, crows, dogs, foxes, opossums, raccoons, rodents, skunks.
Garden waste	YES	B & G	Perennial & annual flower & vegetable stalks, weeds	Exclude chemically treated trimmings — may kill beneficial organisms.
Grasses: turf or ornamental	YES	G	Clippings	Use a mulching mower to recycle directly on the grass, or spread 1" layer on pile, or mix.
Hair: human & pet	YES	B	Clippings	Small, clean amounts.
House plants	YES	B & G	Old, non-blooming	Include the soil.
Kitchen rinse water	YES	neutral	Non-greasy dishwater	NO BLEACH. Moisten the middle of the pile.
Leaves	YES	B	All except black walnut	Shred whenever possible to hasten decomposition. Create leaf mold in separate pile.
Manure	YES	G	Alpaca, cow, chicken, gerbil, goat, hamster, horse, llama, rabbit, sheep, vicuña	No dog or cat poop
Meat products	NO	NA	Meat scraps, fat, bones	Attracts pests: bears, cats, crows, dogs, foxes, opossums, raccoons, rodents, skunks.
Nut shells, fruit pits and acorns	YES	B	Acorns, almonds, peach pits, pecans, pistachio, brown walnuts	NO BLACK WALNUT. Peach pits decompose slowly. Acorns germinate but decompose when mixed to the pile bottom.
Oils	NO	NA	Cooking	Attracts pests: bears, cats, crows, dogs, foxes, opossums, raccoons, rodents, skunks.
Paper	YES	B	Junk mail, newspaper, paper rolls	Clean, moistened, shredded — no shiny or coated paper. Look for soy-based ink, small amounts. Mix or layer at 1/4".
Pine needles & cones	YES	B	Long & short	Brown
Seaweed	YES	G	Fresh or salt water	Gather after a storm to dilute the salt, or rinse with garden hose — 1" layer or mix.
Straw or hay	YES	B		Spread 1" layer or mix. Weed seeds killed in a hot pile of 135-150° F.
Urine	YES	G	Alpaca, cow, chicken, gerbil, goat, hamster, horse, human, llama, pig, rabbit, sheep, vicuña	Moisten the middle of the pile; usually mixed with the manure. Human urine from drug-free (prescription or over the counter) person.
Vacuum bag contents	NO	NA		May contain synthetics, which do not decompose readily
Weeds	YES	G or B	Dandelion, crabgrass	Interior pile heat of 135-150° F will kill seeds
Wood shavings, chips or dust	YES	B	Deciduous or coniferous	No more than 1 cup for a 4'x4' pile. NO BLACK WALNUT.