



VERMICOSPOSTING BINS



These bins are designed for composting food wastes using earthworms. A high-quality compost is produced which is suitable for use on house plants and seedling transplants as well as for general garden use. Vermicomposting can be done indoors making it an appropriate method of composting for people in apartments, as well as for people who would like to avoid trips to the backyard compost heap in winter. For information on how to compost with worms, see the Recycling Council of Ontario's Fact Sheet "Vermicomposting."

1-2-3 EARTHWORM COMPOSTING BIN

This bin is sized to suit a family of four to six people generating about seven pounds of food waste each week.

MATERIALS

- 1 - 1/2" sheet of plywood
- 1 - 12' 2"x4"
- 1 - 16' 2"x4"
- 1 lb. 2" ardox galvanized nails
- 1/2 lb. 3 1/2" ardox galvanized nails
- 2 galvanized door hinges
- Non-toxic wood preservative.

TOOLS

- Tape measure
- Power hand saw or rip hand saw
- Hammer
- Saw horses
- Long straight edge or chalk snap line
- Screwdriver
- Drill with 1/2" bit

Use eye/ear protection and dust mask.

CONSTRUCTION

1. Measure and cut the plywood as indicated in the drawing.
2. Cut the 12' 2"x4" into five pieces: two 39", two 23", and one 20" long. Nail the 2"x4"s together on edge with two 3 1/2" nails at each joint. Nail the plywood base piece onto the 2"x4" frame.

3. Cut four 1' lengths out of the 16' 2"x4". Take each plywood side piece and place a 1' 2"x4" under each of its ends so the 2"x4" is flush with the top and side edges of the plywood and nail the boards into place. Nail the side pieces onto the base frame. To complete the box, nail the ends onto the base and sides. To reinforce the box make sure there is a nail staggered at least every 3 inches wherever plywood and 2"x4"s meet. Drill twenty 1/2" holes through the bottom of the box for drainage and aeration.
4. To build the lid, take the remaining 12' 2"x4" and cut it into 2 45" pieces and 2 20" pieces and lay them flat - short pieces on the inside as indicated in the diagram above, so that the plywood top is inset from the edges of the 2"x4" by 1 1/2" all the way around the perimeter. Nail the plywood onto the 2"x4s securely. Place the hinges on the backside of the box at either end of the 2"x4"s, and on the under side of the 2"x4" lid frame, so that the lid will stand upright when opened.

2 X 2 EARTHWORM COMPOSTING BIN

This bin will accommodate the needs of one to two people generating about four pounds of food waste each week.

MATERIALS

- 1 - 1/2" sheet of plywood
- 36 - 2" ardox galvanized nails
- Non-toxic wood preservative

TOOLS

Same as for 123 Earthworm Composting Bin.

CONSTRUCTION:

1. Cut four pieces of plywood 23 1/2" x 8" for the sides. Nail them together, overlapping at the corners.
2. Cut one piece of plywood 24" x 24" for the bottom. Secure the bottom to the sides using about five nails per side. Drill twelve 1/3" holes in the bottom for aeration and drainage.
3. Use a dark plastic sheet over the top of the bedding as a cover or make a lid out of the remaining plywood.

This design sheet was originally produced for the Community Composting Education Program in Seattle, Washington.