



# TasteWiseKids

**Composting at home is a great way to turn food scraps into nutrition for your garden!**

LET'S  
**COMPOST**

## Planning Steps:

- Determine the right set up for home. Some factors to consider are....
- Is there a place in the kitchen for a compost bucket or container? What size? When and where will you empty your kitchen compost?
- Do you have a spot in the yard for a compost pile? If not, you could consider a compost bin or outdoor container.
- Do you have a place to use your finished compost, like a flower bed, garden or pots?
- Decide on your compost method. The composting process takes from 1 to 6 months depending on the method you choose. Some options are hot, passive, and worm composting (vermicompost.) Many communities have local compost drops for people who do not have space for an outdoor compost system.



- Decide on what to compost. While some items like meats and grains are compostable, they may also attract wildlife. Fruits, veggies, coffee, brown paper, and tea bags may be a good starting point.



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## Start Composting:

- Place your compost container in or near the kitchen so it's accessible when you prepare food.
- Place a few handfuls of wood chips or brown paper at the bottom of the container.



- Begin putting your food scraps and organic material in the container.
- Empty the container into a compost pile or composter every few days so that the organic materials can decompose, following the method of your choice. A ratio of 30:1 carbon (brown material) to nitrogen (green material) is recommended. This is hard to measure, so you can use the smell test. If there is a foul or rotting odor, add more brown/dry material. When balanced, compost should have an earthy smell.



*There are many different methods of composting. Find the one that works best for you!*