Organics for backyard composting

Food scraps



Uncoated and unlined paper only



Composting Biology 101

Like a simple recipe, your compost pile needs the right mix of ingredients in order to produce the best results. The key materials are nitrogen-rich "greens," carbon-rich "browns," water, and air.

Greens provide nitrogen, and act as a source of protein for the microbes. Examples of greens are green leaves, coffee grounds, tea bags, plant trimmings, raw fruit and vegetable scraps, and grass clippings. Browns are a source of carbon, and provide energy for the microbes. Examples of browns are straw, sawdust, twigs, dried grasses, brown leaves, and shredded newspaper.

Like all living things, the microbes in your compost pile need water and air to live. Water allows the microbes in your compost pile to grow and travel around in the pile to decompose materials. Turning your pile each week with a spade or pitchfork will provide air to aid decomposition and control odors.



Browns

food • uncoated soiled paper