



## Having problems with your compost?

Check out our list of possible problems and simple solutions:

### Process is too slow and cool



#### **Lack of Aliveness**

Check no toxic or poisonous substances are being put in (e.g. chlorine bleaches, or any other household or garden synthetic chemicals). These can kill the microbes and other living things.

#### **Lack of Diversity**

More variety of ingredients (perhaps high in Nitrogen) may be required e.g. Manure, blood & bone. Use a compost Activitator.

#### **Lack of Aeration**

Turn or “fluff up” heap more often. Improve bottom drainage. Add more coarse materials e.g. Twigs, prunings, leaves.

#### **Lack of Moisture**

Mix and add more water if heap is not as moist as a lightly squeezed sponge. Cover surface heap with hessian or newspaper to hold moisture and heat IN. N.B. well built compost heaps should get hot (between 40 - 70°C), small bins 40 - 50°C, big bins 50 - 70°C.

## Smelly compost



### **Lack of Diversity**

More variety of ingredients may be required. Try using a compost Activator (e.g. Humilac).

### **Lack of Aeration**

Increase aeration of compost bin or enclosure (more holes). Alternatively, remake heap with a coarse layer on the bottom, e.g. sticks, leaves, twigs, pruning's, etc.

## Mice or cockroaches



### **Lack of Diversity**

May be too much bread and meat and not enough other ingredients. Add lime and wood ash more regularly. Always cover food scraps with soil, grass, newspaper.

### **Lack of Aeration**

See note above re: Aeration

### **Lack of Moisture**

See note above re: Moisture

