

# MIRACLE GRO® ROTATING BIN COMPOSTER



(Miracle Gro ® image extracted 6/17/2021 from [www.thedailygardener.com/best-compost-tumbler](http://www.thedailygardener.com/best-compost-tumbler))

## GENERAL INFORMATION

The Miracle Gro® is a mostly enclosed, rotatable compost bin. The rotating bins are supposed to be the fastest composters. Allegedly, finished compost can be made in as little as 3 weeks. The down side is that rotating composters work best if the composting is done in batches. In other words, the compost bin is filled, then allowed to “cook” for several weeks without adding more material. This is opposed to other composters where material can be added continuously. During the “cooking” time the bin is rotated several times per week. Usually, both yard waste and food waste can be composted in a rotating bin. The Miracle Gro® could possibly be placed either outside or in an enclosed space such as a shed or garage.

Rotating composters work best if the mixture to be composted consists of 75% dry, brown ingredients and 25% wet, green ingredients. It works best if the material is shredded before adding. Some people add some finished compost to the initial mixture, others don't.

**DO ADD: ABOUT 75% BY VOLUME OF DRY, BROWN MATERIAL**

such as dry grass clippings, straw, dry leaves, wood chips, shredded paper--

**... AND ABOUT 25% BY VOLUME OF WET, GREEN MATERIAL**

such as vegetable peelings, coffee grounds, freshly mowed grass clippings, green yard waste, flowers, egg shells—anything green and moist.

## **DON'T ADD:**

Fruit, meat, dairy, pet wastes, weeds that have gone to seed, salty or greasy food scraps, biodegradable plastics, citrus.

In general, there is less ventilation from a rotating bin, and so the mixture tends to be wetter. Ideally the material should be the consistency of a wet sponge. If too wet, add more “dry brown” material. If too dry, add some water. When the bin is full, **stop adding more material** to the composter and let the material decompose.

After the bin is full and the compost is “cooking”, it should be turned about 2-3 times per week. Daily turning is too much—it disrupts the composting process. Two to three times per week delivers plenty of oxygen to the developing compost.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST! IF YOU APPLIED, THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE 2021 EMAC HOME COMPOSTING PILOT PROGRAM.**

There are many YouTube videos and websites about composting with a rotating bin. Here are a few that might be helpful:

<https://www.planetnatural.com/tumbling-composter/>

[www.dfomer.com/media/miraclegro-dualcomposter-assembly-rv3.pdf](http://www.dfomer.com/media/miraclegro-dualcomposter-assembly-rv3.pdf)

<https://www.growertoday.com/how-to-compost-in-rotating-barrels/>

<http://glenallennursery.com/documents/composter.pdf>