# Compost System Management

This playbook outlines the steps for building a compost bin, identifying compostable materials, and managing the composting process to create nutrient-rich soil for gardening purposes.

### Step 1: Select Location

Choose a dry, shady spot near a water source for your compost bin.

### Step 2: Build Bin

Construct a compost bin using materials like wood pallets or wire mesh. Ensure it's at least 3 feet wide and deep.

### Step 3: Add Browns

Begin layering your compost with 'brown' materials, such as dead leaves, branches, and twigs, to start the base.

### Step 4: Add Greens

Add 'green' materials, like vegetable waste, fruit scraps, and coffee grounds, on top of the brown layer.

### Step 5: Maintain Moisture

Water the compost pile to keep it damp but not soaked, aiding the decomposition process.

### Step 6: Turn Pile

Regularly turn the compost pile every few weeks with a shovel or pitchfork to aerate it and speed up decomposition.

### Step 7: Monitor Progress

Check your compost's progress over time. It should be ready when it's dark, crumbly, and has an earthy smell.

### Step 8: Use Compost

Harvest your compost and apply it to your garden beds to enrich the soil once it's fully decomposed and mature.

## General Notes

### Material Size

Chop or shred larger pieces of compostable material to speed up the decomposition process.

### Balance

Maintain a good balance between green and brown materials, ideally a 1:3 ratio, to provide enough nitrogen and carbon.

### Avoid Meat

Do not compost meat, dairy, or diseased plants, as they can attract pests and cause odor problems.