

Wooden Pallet Compost Bin

Wooden pallets can make an inexpensive and durable compost bin. The bin can be used as a holding or turning unit. Used pallets are often available from local businesses, manufacturers or landfills.

Cost: Less than \$30

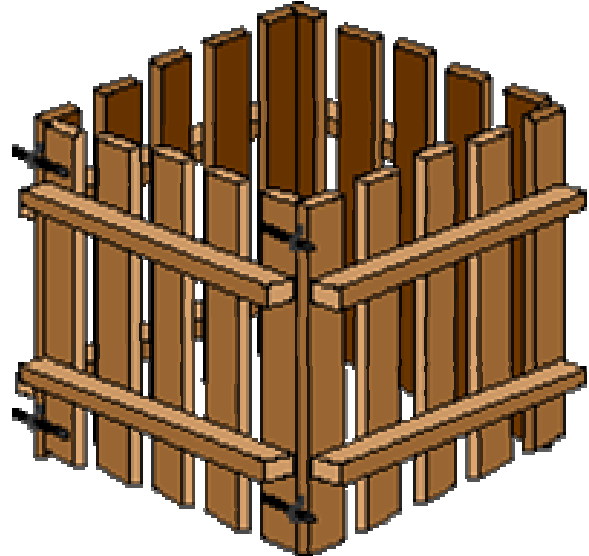
Capacity: Holds 1 cu yd or 8 to 10
30 gal bags of yard materials

Materials:

- 4 wooden pallets (5 if want a bottom for bin), sized to make a four-sided container at least 3 feet x 3 feet x 3 feet
- 8 large hook and eye gate latches (bolt latches, rope or bailing wire are also options)

Tools:

- Level
- Shovel
- Work gloves



Construction Details:

1. Level ground at location where pallet bin will sit.
2. Connect four pallets with hooks and eyes or bolt latches to make a four-sided bin at least 3 feet x 3 feet x 3 feet. The bin is then ready to use. To turn the pile, unhook the sides, set up pallets next to existing pile and transfer compost materials to the empty pallet bin. The pallets can also be tied or wired together.
3. (Optional) A fifth pallet may be used as a base to allow more air to get into the pile and to increase the stability of the bin. However, this base pallet will decompose faster than the sides and make turning the bottom of the pile more difficult.

Revised 2/2004 by Kathy Powell, SHWEC Adjunct Faculty.

For More Information, Contact Your County Extension Agent or SHWEC

SHWEC at <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/shwec>

Green Bay

University of Wisconsin
2420 Nicolet Dr, MAC212
Green Bay WI 54311
920-465-2278
FAX 920-465-2376

Madison

UW Extension
610 Langdon St., Rm 528
Madison WI 53703
608-262-0385
FAX 608-262-6250

Milwaukee

UWM UW-Extension
161 West Wisconsin Ave,
Suite 6000
Milwaukee WI 53202
414-227-3160
FAX 414-227-3165

Stevens Point

University of Wisconsin
College of Natural
Resources
Stevens Point WI 54481
715-346-2793
FAX 715-346-3624