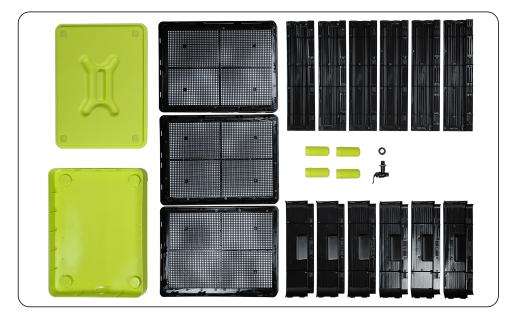
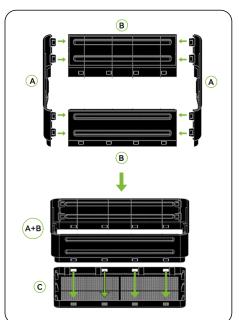
# WORM COMPOSTING BIN Turning waste into treasure and reducing waste







#### **GETTING STARTED**

#### **Step 1: Prepare Materials**

Place a coconut fiber block in a container with about 3 quartsof non-chlorinated lukewarm water. (Lukewarm water will work faster and feel better when handling the fiber.) Never use chlorinated water as it will kill the living microbes.

#### **Step 2: Prepare Tray**

Place one of the trays on top of the base tray. Set the other two trays aside for now Lay2-4 sheets of newspaper in the tray to cover the holes (the paper will overlap up onto the sides, this is fine). Use the newspaper only for this tray, never in any of the following trays.

Scoop the coconut fiber out of the container in handfuls, squeezing out excess moisture so that the fiber is about as moist as a wrung-out sponge. The bedding should be damp, not drlpping wet. Cover the coconut fiber with 2-4 inches of shredded and damp (notdripping) newspaper. Add 400-800 composting worms to the tray, plus the bedding they arrive in. Put the lid on the tray and let them get comfortable overnight before adding any additional food.

#### Step 3: Feed the Worms

The amount of food to put in the bin depends on the number of worms you have. Five hundred worms need 13/4 pounds of fruit and vegetable scraps and 2 tablespoons of Worm Nerd's Premium Worm Grit per week . Sprinkle the grit over the food scraps and cover with shredded, moistened paper. Return the lid on the tray.

NOTE: It is especially important to not over feed your worms. Doing so may caus them to get ill or even die. If there is food left over from earlier feeding, do not add cmore. The worms will also eat the shredded paper, coconut coir, and cardboard.

Tip: Keep a 3-pronged hand-held garden cultivator on top of the bin and use it tolift

the layer of shredded newspaper to check on your worms (it also helps to keep your hands clean!).



#### Step 4: Wait Patiently

The bedding/shredded newspaper/food scrap layers may reach the top of this first tray right from the start, but do not be tempted to put on the next tray for a couple of months. The bedding in the first tray will settle and become more compacted over time. Worms will reduce the volume of all this organic material over time by 2/3 to 3/4 of its original volume. Use the 3-pronged handheld garden cultivator perliodlically to gently aerate the tray.

#### Step 5: Maintain

As the worms increase in number, you should able to gradually increase the amount of food given on a weekly basis. If there is no food left over from the last week's feeding, it is time to increase the amount you feed, as well as the grit sprinkled on top of the food. Do not over feed! Be sure to always cover the exposed food with 2-4 inches of damp, shredded newspaper. This layer of newspaper is important for breeding, pest control, carbon to nitrogen (C:N) ratio, and castings quality. It will eventually be consumed by the worms. Simply replace the shredded paper as needed.

Clean out the base tray every other month or so and place the contents back into the top tray. Worms will often go down to the base tray and too much liquid could cause them to drown. Any castings that accumulate here will compact and hinder air flow.

### Auxiliary tools:



The claw gardening gloves are the perfect gifts for moms, gardeners or people who work outdoors with their hands.



A handy worm composting turning fork to enable you to feed your worms and turn your bedding.



The mini garden tools kit is especially good for office gardening, desk gardening and indoor bonsai, helpful for your cute succulent plants.



Good gardener, Garden Flowers 3 in 1 Soil PH& Moisture Sensor Meter, No battery.

## More options:



