

Stuff You Can Compost!

BROWNS	GREENS
paper towels, tissues and napkins	freezer-burned produce
greeting cards, notes and scrap paper	spoiled salad greens
newspapers & mailings w/ soy inks	pet fur, people hair
shredded paper & cardboard	expired fruits and veggies
paper bags, construction paper, paper plates	plate scrapings/meal scraps (non-meat)
untreated woodchips, sawdust	coffee grounds, tea leaves
dried weeds, dead plants you forgot to water	faded flower bouquets
dust bunnies, vacuum contents	freshly pulled weeds
hay and straw	fresh mown grass
dried grass clippings	vegetable & fruit peelings, stems & cores
coffee filters, tea bags	watermelon rinds, jack o' lanterns
egg shells	stale nuts
pine needles and fallen leaves	old molasses, corn syrup
expired spices	chicken, duck, goat, sheep, cow & horse manures
peat moss	pet (bird, rodent, rabbit) cage cleanings
wood ash (<i>apply in thin layers, changes pile chemistry</i>)	stale bread, leftover pasta
old potting soil	aquarium plants, water & sludge
tree bark, small branches	stale snack foods
school glue	cereal, grains and oatmeal
nut shells, popcorn	tofu, Jell-o
pencil shavings	old juice, wine, beer
unmatched wool or cotton socks	pickles, jams, condiments
burned toast	liquid from canned vegetables & fruits
cotton string, jute twine	garden annuals at the end of summer
burlap	leftover fruit smoothies
popsicle sticks, toothpicks	old fertilizer
wax paper	brewing waste (wet)
paper muffin liners	corn cobs
down feathers from bedding or jackets	sod
belly button lint	pet food
unpaid bills	algae, seaweed, aquatic weeds

- **Just remember:** when you add “green” materials, especially food scraps of any kind, cover them up with a thicker layer of dry “brown” materials or mix/bury them within the pile. This will control odors and deter varmints and flying insects from taking an interest in your compost pile.
- **Always add plenty more “browns” than “greens”!**
- **Keep your compost pile damp!**

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