

TIPS FOR FRESHER BINS

Inside Your Home – Use Your Kitchen Bin for Food Waste

- Remember that all food waste should be placed in the green bin which is collected weekly. Use the kitchen bin (pictured) to make this easier.
- Sort and separate food waste, recyclables and general waste at the source. As well as using your kitchen bin for food scraps, consider having two small bins - one for recyclables and one for general waste.
- Keep the lids on all your bins tightly closed, especially the kitchen food waste bin.
- Keep all food covered and put scraps in the kitchen food waste bin straight away.
- Double-wrap meat, bones and unwanted pet food in paper as this will help reduce the smell and stop flies.
- Place left-over meat, prawn shells and similar food scraps in the freezer until collection day.
- Drain or wash excess liquids from food scraps before putting them in your kitchen bin. Line your food waste bin with paper towel to soak up wet residues.
- Keep your kitchen food waste bin out of direct sunlight.
- Empty your kitchen food waste bin frequently, either every day or every second day.
- Wipe up spills inside your kitchen bin and wash or disinfect regularly both inside and out.
- You can continue to compost at home. Council's food and garden waste green bin can take many things you can't compost at home such as citrus, bread, bones, seafood, chicken and meat.
- Wash hands and work surfaces after contact with waste.
- Rinse all food packaging (recyclable and non-recyclable) before putting it in the yellow and red bins. Rinsing yoghurt pots, meat trays and other packaging will help reduce smells.
- Visit www.lovefoodhatewaste.nsw.gov.au for tips on how to cut down your food wastage, save money and reduce your impact on the environment.



Tips for Outside Bins

- Keep your bin lids closed at all times. This prevents flies from laying their eggs in your waste. It also stops smells spreading. If your bin is broken, contact the Waste Hotline on 1300 725 415 to arrange a replacement.
- Store your outside bins in a well-ventilated, shady and convenient location. Keeping your bins out of direct sunlight will help slow general decomposition and reduce smells.
- Keep your bins clean by cleaning up any spillages on the outside or lip of your bin. These spillages could attract flies and vermin.
- If required, rinse your bin after collection with a mild detergent, vinegar and water solution or dilute bleach to kill odours, bacteria and flies. Use a trigger nozzle hose and wash bins on the grass. Strong detergents or bleach should not be put into stormwater drains. Bins should be washed out on grass areas.



Red Bins – General Waste

- By sorting your waste properly you could potentially reduce your red bin rubbish by more than half. A waste audit undertaken in Forbes in May 2015 found that 60% of rubbish found in red bins should be put in green bins, and a further 16% should be put in yellow bins.
- Bag or wrap your general rubbish before putting it in the red bin. Old plastic shopping bags can be used to tie up your rubbish if you do not have black bags or bin liners.
- Pet waste can be buried in your garden. If you decide to throw it away, bag or double-bag it securely to prevent smells.
- Empty the contents of soiled nappies into the toilet before placing them in the bin. Tightly roll into a bundle to enclose contents and use the sticky tabs to close securely.
- Wrap, bag or double-bag nappies and sanitary items to reduce smells. There are products available such as odour neutralising nappy bags and bin deodorisers that can help.

Yellow Bins - Recycling

- Rinse recyclable food packaging, bottles and cans to remove any excess food residue and allow them to drain thoroughly before putting them in the recycling bin.
- Put newspaper in the bin first to help absorb any moisture and keep the bin clean.

Green Bins – Food and Garden Waste

- Put ALL food waste in your green food and garden waste bin which is collected weekly.
- Put your green bin out for collection every week even if it is not full.
- Keep your green bin as dry as possible. Line with newspaper, cardboard or lawn clippings before adding food scraps to soak up any moisture and prevent any loose food waste from sticking to the bottom of the bin.
- Alternate food scraps with a layer of leaves or lawn clippings to reduce odours and prevent flies from accessing food waste.
- Allow grass clippings to dry before placing them in the bin.
- Cut down oversized garden waste to ensure the lid of the bin can always be closed.

