

NEW AGE COMPOSTER

– Assembly Instructions –

Welcome to the World of Composting! Your assembly kit contains:

1 large rectangular sheet (*barrel*), 2 round discs (*top and bottom cones*), 1 U-shaped plastic piece (*bottom brace*), 3 metal ground stakes, 1 piece of rope, 20 plastic fasteners (*save extras for future use*), a pamphlet on composting

ASSEMBLING THE PIECES:

NOTE: The plastic pieces will be easier to work with if you allow them to warm up to room temperature.

THE BARREL

The Composter is available in three Bin sizes as indicated below. The size of your Bin is imprinted on the front of the barrel. Before starting, determine which Bin you have purchased and what diameter size best fits your needs.

BIN-11 is adjustable to two diameter sizes:

Size 1: Diameter: 30" (11 cu. ft. capacity, holds 5 bags of leaves at a time.)

Size 2: Diameter: 26" (8.5 cu. ft. capacity, holds 4 bags of leaves at a time.)

BIN-24 is adjustable to four diameter sizes:

Size 1: Diameter: 41" (24 cu. ft. capacity, holds 10 bags of leaves at a time.)

Size 2: Diameter: 37" (20 cu. ft. capacity, holds 8 bags of leaves at a time.)

Size 3: Diameter: 33" (16 cu. ft. capacity, holds 6.5 bags of leaves at a time.)

Size 4: Diameter: 30" (12 cu. ft. capacity, holds 5 bags of leaves at a time.)

BIN-30 is adjustable to three diameter sizes:

Size 1: Diameter: 44" (30 cu. ft. capacity, holds 13 bags of leaves at a time.)

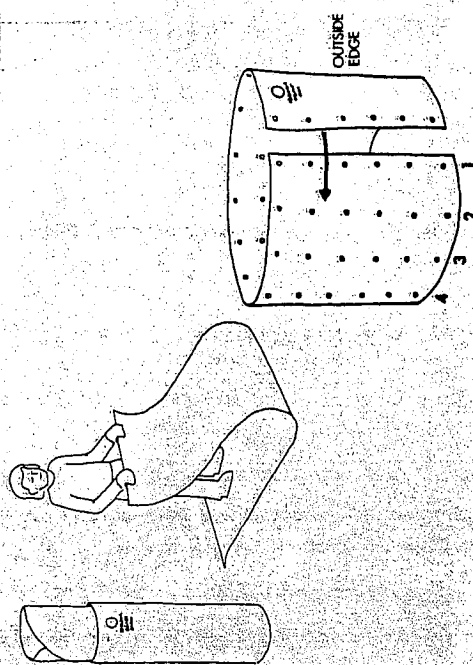
Size 2: Diameter: 40" (25 cu. ft. capacity, holds 10 bags of leaves at a time.)

Size 3: Diameter: 36" (20 cu. ft. capacity, holds 8 bags of leaves at a time.)

Assembling the Barrel:

1. Unroll the large rectangular sheet (*if it retains its tight shape, lay the sheet flat on the ground and roll it back onto itself*).

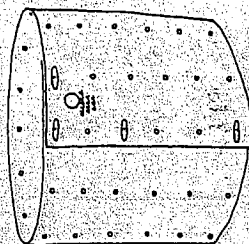
2. Overlap the ends of the sheet as pictured. Make sure the label is on the outside edge. For Size 1, overlap the outside edge with column 1. For Sizes 2, 3 or 4, overlap the outside edge with columns 2, 3 or 4.



3. Pin the ends of the barrel together using 3 TA® Toggler® brand fasteners provided. Fold the wings of the fasteners (as shown in the pictures below) and insert the folded wings through the aligned holes, from the inside out, so that the wings open up on the outside of the bin. This will prevent the lid from snagging on the wings when you lift it off. *Note: If you lose any fastener, extras have been provided, or you can substitute a nut and bolt or place a piece of rope through the holes.*

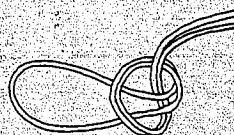


4. If you set up your bin at sizes 2, 3 or 4, use a single fastener to secure the loose flap to the barrel along the top edge. *Note: The bottom edge will be held in place against the barrel by the bottom cone.*

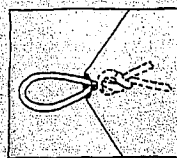


The Top and Bottom Cones:

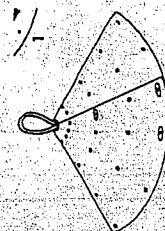
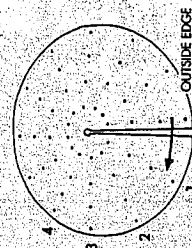
1. Lay the round discs flat. To help uncurl the pieces and make the plastic more flexible to work with, **bend it back on itself.**



2. Form a **handle** for the top cone by folding the piece of rope in half and making a loop with a **double knot** at the bottom. (see *illus.*) Slip the rope through the large hole in the center of the disc that forms the top cone.



3. Form each disc into a cone the same size as the barrel. To do this, simply align the holes as you did with the barrel. The edge with the holes **closest to the slit** is the outside edge. If the barrel is on Size 1, simply overlap the outside edge with Column 1 and insert 2 fasteners in that column. If the barrel is on Size 2, 3 or 4, overlap the outside edge with Column 2, 3 or 4 and insert 2 fasteners. Use 1 fastener to secure the loose inside flap.



Supporting the Bottom Cone:

When setting up Bin-11 at Size 1, Bin-24 at Size 1, 2 or 3 or Bin-30 at Size 1 or 2, you must support the bottom cone with the provided brace. If the barrel is set up for the smallest sizes, the brace is not needed. Form the U-shaped piece into a circle. Adjust the diameter of the brace to fit under the cone by aligning the first hole on the labeled outside

edge of the brace with the holes marked "1", "2" or "3" depending on what size you chose for the bin. Insert a fastener and secure the overlap with a second fastener. The brace will be **smallest** when the first hole on the labeled edge is fastened to the hole marked "1", but this size will support a cone set up to its **largest** size (Size 1). Fastening the first hole on the labeled edge to the hole marked "2" will support a cone set up in the medium size (Size 2). The brace will be **largest** when the first hole on the labeled edge is fastened to the hole marked "3", but this size will support a cone set up to the **small** size (Size 3). The brace must be round to work effectively. If it takes an oval shape when assembled, push on the sides until it retains a circular shape. Place the brace on level ground with the wide end up. It will appear to be upside down in relation to the cone. Center the bottom cone over the brace. For extra support, pack the space beneath the bottom cone with empty detergent bottles with the caps screwed on tightly.

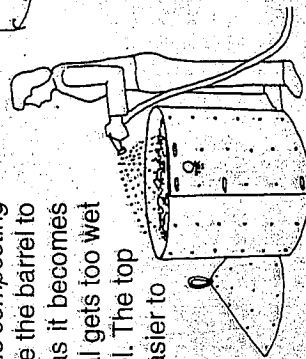
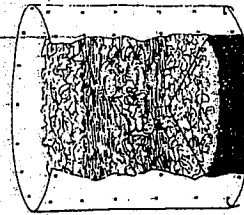
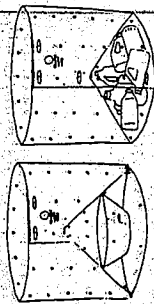
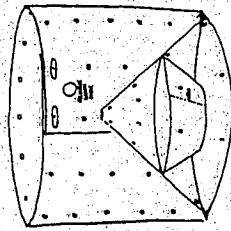
Note: The New Age Composter is most stable when located on a level surface.

Assembling the Bin:

1. Place the barrel over the bottom cone. Line up the holes in the bottom of the barrel with the holes in the edge of the bottom cone. Insert the 3 metal stakes through the bottom of the barrel and the bottom of the cone and push them into the ground.

2. Place 3-6 shovelfuls of soil, finished compost or manure in the bottom of your Composter on top of the bottom cone. Fill the bin with leaves and grass (or other brown and green material) and moisten to the consistency of a wrung out sponge. Vegetative kitchen scraps can be buried in this material. (For more details, please refer to the composting booklet enclosed with your bin.) Slide the top cone inside the barrel to rest on the material inside. Continue adding material as it becomes available. Remember to bury food scraps. If the material gets too wet and compacted, fluff it with a hoe, pitchfork, or hand tool. The top cone will fit very snugly inside the barrel. To make it easier to lift the lid, pull the handle towards you, tilting the lid and breaking the seal.

Note: Keep your bin at least half full for best results.



Harvesting Your Compost:

There are three ways to harvest finished compost from your bin.

1. The fastest way is to dig down along the sides of the barrel to where the compost has collected around the base of the cone. Push aside the undecomposed material and shovel out the compost as needed. The wide barrel makes it easy to work inside the bin. A hoe makes it easy to move material around in the bin. Leave a 3" layer of compost in the bottom of your Bin to help break down the fresh material.

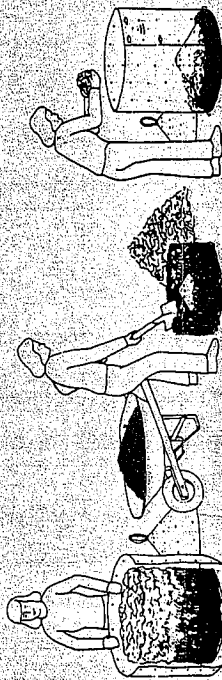
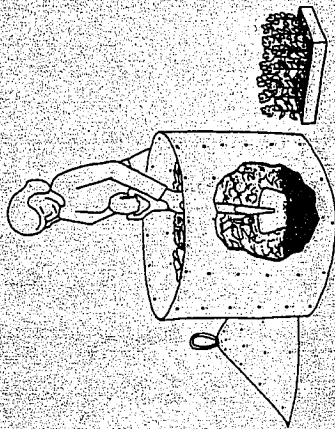
2A. Alternatively, you can get easy access to the compost all at once by taking apart the barrel. Remove the fasteners from the barrel and peel the barrel away from the material inside.

2B. Push aside the unfinished upper layers of material. Shovel finished compost into wheelbarrow or wagon.

2C. Leave several inches of finished compost around the bottom cone to restart your pile. Re-form the barrel over the bottom cone. Toss the unfinished material back into the bin. Make sure the pile is moist — add water if necessary. Replace the lid.

3. The third option is to interchange the top and bottom cones, which gives you a place

to put the unfinished material as you separate it from the finished compost. Just re-form the barrel around the former top cone so that it becomes the new bottom. Remove the rope handle to use in the new top cone. Place empty soda or detergent bottles under the new bottom cone as described in "Supporting the Bottom Cone" section. Remove the top layers from your pile and toss them into the re-formed bin. Shovel the finished compost into a wheelbarrow. Add a few shovelfuls of finished compost to re-start your pile, and mix the materials together. Then check the moisture level, insert the rope handle through the center hole of the top cone, and replace the lid.



Happy composting!

If you have questions, please call us at 1-508-998-3111.

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