Food Waste Recycling

European Union (Household Food Waste and Biowaste) Regulations 2015 require proper recycling of food waste.

Local Authority or Waste Collectors logo goes here

BROWNbin.ie
Your new Food Waste Recycling Service
What food waste can I recycle?

You can put any of the following materials into your brown bin:

✓ RAW OR COOKED FOOD
✓ MEAT, POULTRY & FISH, INCLUDING BONES
✓ Leftover food from your plates and dishes
✓ Fruit & vegetables
✓ Tea bags, coffee grinds & paper filters
✓ Breads, cakes & biscuits
✓ Rice, pasta & cereals
✓ Dairy products (cheese, butter, yoghurt)
✓ Soups & sauces
✓ Eggs, egg shells & cardboard egg boxes
✓ Food soiled paper napkins, paper towels
✓ Newspaper (when used for wrapping food waste)
✓ Out of date food with packaging removed (no glass/plastic)

Grass clippings and small twigs can also be added to your large brown bin.

NO THANKS!
Please DO NOT put any of the following materials into your brown bin

✗ Plastic bags/bottles
✗ Packaging of any sort
✗ Nappies
✗ Glass
✗ Stones/soil
✗ Metal cans/wire
✗ Cardboard
✗ Ashes, coal or cinders
✗ Pet faeces or litter
✗ Cooking oils

IF IN DOUBT PHONE AND FIND OUT
contact your waste collection company
How do I use my kitchen caddy?

Step 1.
ONLY use compostable / paper bags with the seedling logo.

Step 2.
The kitchen caddy is for use in the kitchen.
Not for collection at kerbside.

Step 3.
Line your caddy with compostable bags and fill it with food waste.
Step 4.
When the kitchen caddy is full, tie the bag and put it into your outside brown bin.

Step 5.
Leave your brown bin out every fortnight for collection by your waste collector.
Frequently asked questions

I already compost food waste at home, can I still do this?
Yes you can. Your home composting bin can still be used for uncooked vegetables and fruit peelings. However you cannot place raw meat/cooked meats into your home composter.

You can use your brown bin for all types of food waste, INCLUDING RAW/COOKED FOODS OR MEATS.

But remember, you cannot place food waste into your general waste bin.

Why should you use the brown bin?
• It saves money because you become more aware of the food you waste and is cheaper to use than your waste bin.
• Recycling food waste is the Law.
• It’s better for the environment because you are avoiding sending food waste to a landfill where it produces harmful greenhouse gases.
• It produces a high quality compost.

Can I use plastic bin bags in my brown bin?
No. Plastic bags are made from petrochemical plastics that do not break down during composting and contaminate the process. Please remember that if plastic is found in your brown bin, your bin will not be emptied and a contamination tag will be placed on your bin to inform you of this. You may also be liable to an on the spot fine from your local authority.

Will the brown bin cost me more money?
The new brown bin system should not cost more money providing correct segregation of waste is taking place. Under By-laws and National Waste Policy, your waste collector must encourage recycling by offering a lesser charge for collecting your brown bin than your general waste bin.

The most expensive waste stream of all is general waste (landfill waste). There is a Government levy on waste going to landfill, therefore by putting food waste instead into your brown bin, you are avoiding this levy and saving money.

Can I put my food waste into my general waste bin?
You are no longer allowed by Irish law to put food waste into your general waste bin.

If you have any queries contact your waste collector or visit the national information website for more details:

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Your new Food Waste Recycling Service
Tips For Recycling Food Waste

- Only use the special compostable bags that have the seedling logo to line your caddy.
- Keep your kitchen caddy where it’s easily accessible or under your kitchen sink.
- Keep your caddy clean by rinsing with water and wiping with kitchen towel.
- Empty your kitchen caddy every 2-3 days to avoid odours.
- Your food waste is collected and brought to a large composting site where high quality compost is produced which is used in landscaping, in gardens and on agricultural land. It is important that you do not put any glass, metal or plastic into your brown bin as it will make the material more difficult to compost and will lower the quality of the compost produced.
- If you have any queries about the scheme contact your waste collector.