

# Everything you need to know about compostable bags and your food waste recycling

## What is a compostable bag?

A compostable bag is a special bag made from natural materials. These bags turn safely into compost along with your food and garden waste.



## Do I have to use compostable bags?

You can recycle your food waste without using compostable bags by putting it straight into your food caddy or green bin. Many residents prefer to line their food caddy to prevent it from getting messy and for transferring food waste easily.

## How do I know which bags are compostable?



Compostable bags will have the word 'compostable' on them along with the Seedling logo, they will also have the EU standard EN1343Z printed on them.

Please **do not** use bags that say 'biodegradable' or 'recyclable' in your food caddy. These bags will not compost.

## Where can I buy compostable bags from?

There are over 100 stockists including major supermarkets in Oldham that sell compostable bags. To locate your nearest stockist please call us on **0161 770 6644** or visit our website [www.oldham.gov.uk/waste](http://www.oldham.gov.uk/waste).

## Can I mix my food and garden waste?

Yes, you can put food and garden waste into your green bin. Your food and garden waste will be collected every week.

## Why are there two types of food caddy and a green bin?

Your indoor caddy is for use in your kitchen, or wherever you choose to keep it, it is small and easy to empty regularly. During the summer months residents often choose to use their larger green bin for all of their food and garden waste. It is during the winter months, when there is no garden waste, that residents may prefer to use their outdoor food caddy.

## What happens to my food and garden waste once it has been collected?

Your food and garden waste is taken to a facility where it is recycled into compost.

If you have any other questions about recycling your food waste, please contact us on **0161 770 6644**.



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# How to recycle your food waste



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# All cooked and uncooked food waste can be recycled



Tea bags and coffee grounds



Out of date food  
(no packaging)



Meat and bones  
(cooked and uncooked)



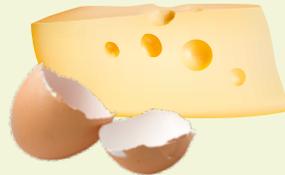
Fruit and vegetables



Grass, flowers, hedge and plant cuttings



Breads and pastries



Dairy (e.g. cheese) and egg shells

## No thanks X

- Soil, gravel and stones
- Pet bedding
- Animal droppings
- Plant pots and flower trays
- Wood
- Plastic bags including 'biodegradable'
- Food packaging

# How to recycle your food waste

**1** Put your food waste into your indoor food caddy. You may want to use a compostable bag.\*

\* See overleaf for more information on compostable bags.



**2** When your indoor caddy is full, empty it into your outdoor caddy or straight into your green bin, if you have one.



**3** Your food waste is collected weekly. Just put your outdoor caddy or green bin out on your usual collection day with your other rubbish or recycling bin.\*\*

\*\* Please note, you can put either your outdoor caddy or your green bin out for collection but not both.

