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How To Start A Worm Bin



Synopsis

Do you want to learn to turn food scraps into valuable compost? Do you believe in taking responsibility for the waste we create? People all over the world are turning their food scraps into nutrient-rich worm compost through starting their own worm bin. This book contains everything you need to get started worm composting in one easy-to-read book. Topics include what type of worms to buy, how to construct a bin, maintain the right environment, and how to foster a thriving worm herd. The Worm Bin Troubleshooting and FAQ sections cover the rest. The author demonstrates that worm composting is a year-round activity that is easy, fast, convenient, good for the earth, good for your plants, and fun.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"This book has made the art of worm composting accessible to everyone." --Nadine Ford, Mgr., Little Sugar Creek Community Garden
"Anyone who reads this book will feel confident enough to start their very own worm farm." --Brian Roasa, Owner/Consultant, BE New Organic World, LLC

A native of San Antonio, TX, Henry fell in love with nature as a child at summer camp and on family camping trips. Henry believes that all people need to be connected to nature and that all children deserve opportunities for imaginative, exploratory, nature-based play. He has worked at summer camps and as a 2nd grade teacher. He co-founded and directed Friendship Gardens, a non profit project that grows food for meals-on-wheels in Charlotte, NC before moving back to Texas to serve the Nature Discovery Center as Executive Director. He is a husband, father, educator, adventure

play advocate, garden nerd, and avid composter.

How to Start a Worm Bin is well-written and accessible. With Henry Owen's clear guidance, I set up a good bin in the best location and filled it with the proper mix of bedding. I was then able to quickly identify a reputable place to buy my first batch of red wigglers. Once my worms arrived, the book helped me detect the signs of over-feeding; how to maintain a balanced moisture level; and, offered specific and comprehensive tips for regular maintenance to ensure a healthy wormery. The appendices are organized for quick reference, including a FAQ section and trouble-shooting chart. My wormery is thriving! The section "Worm Composting for Kids" inspired me to invite my granddaughter to share in the experience and to gain her first scientific and ecological insights. An added bonus is the author's generosity in providing ongoing electronic links and information to those who buy the book. I highly recommend this guide to those interested in a responsible and fascinating route to making a positive, environmental impact and achieving nutrient-rich compost to boot. Owen's guide is well organized and clear, with each chapter addressing a specific component of running a good wormery, addressing fully fears and concerns beginners unavoidably face, maintenance tips that assure a continued healthy bin, and even suggestions for inviting children into the worm composting experience! I definitely recommend this book to anyone considering worm composting.

There are quite a few guides to worm composting but most of them repeat essentially the same information with slight variations in the way they suggest building your bin or which one to purchase among the commercial ones. What sets this book apart and makes it the best of those I have looked at is that it discusses each aspect of worm composting in the most practical way without much in the way of dogma. Instead the author discusses real life experience, much of it his own, explaining the reasons for various choices and leaving you with a good number of options in each area so that you can take advantage of bedding options that are inexpensively and readily available for you or food options that are likewise practical for each reader. I had it on hand when I began worm composting and it gave me all the information I needed to feel rightfully confident in being successful. Highly recommended.

From project start, to successful and happy worm bin, took less time than reading the book did. That's because the book was clear and to the point, so the actual work was quick and easy. We are now the proud parents of 1,000 happy recyclers!

This book is great for starting. I have read it cover to cover at least six times and realize that I am finding more to learn each time. This book, and, access to a vermiculturist I met through the Texas A&M extension service, have made me feel very comfortable as I prepare for my first harvest. Compost production and compost tea production are better than expected.

Henry Owen does an excellent job of emphasizing the important aspects of vermicomposting, while keeping the dialog light and entertaining. Children and adults alike should have no trouble with following his straightforward and easily understood formula for successful home vermiculture. The book does not delve into large scale, commercial methods. This one is for the folks that want to do something that is good for the planet and easily accomplished at home without spending a lot of money or adding a lot of work to your busy schedule. Highly recommend for those with an interest, as it is a short read.

I recently purchased and set up a Worm Composting Bin and am so glad I read this book before I got started. It is a fast, informative read with recommendations on where to purchase worms, bins as well as how to set up your own very inexpensively. I highly recommend this book to anyone who is thinking about getting started in vermiculture.

This book was very helpful in teaching me and reassuring me that I was starting my worms the right way!

This is a good starter guide for beginners. I guess I was expecting a little more. If you have purchased a commercial kit like the worm factory 360 like I have, the book that is included with it covers just about as much or more than this book does. I was looking for more in depth information on combinations of food that would produce different results in nutrient levels etc., I am also interested in the use of cold manures such as goat etc.. that can be used if done properly and this type of stuff isn't really talked about. If you are building your own setup or new to worm farming and just trying to get the basics this is a great book to start with.

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