

# Wormery, Bokashi and Food Digester Information Sheet

An alternative way to deal with your food waste, rather than using a compost bin or heap, is to use a wormery, bokashi system or a food digester. Unlike a compost bin, these have the added advantage that most cooked foods can be added to them.

## Wormeries

Wormeries are self-contained systems, usually about the size of a small dustbin, that are used mainly to compost kitchen waste. Red tiger worms convert the waste into rich, dark compost, often referred to as 'black gold' due to the valuable nutritional properties of the compost. NB: due to their size, wormeries are not suitable for composting garden waste.

Best results are obtained from wormeries when materials such as vegetable peelings, tea leaves, coffee grounds, stale bread and food leftovers are used. Shredded paper is also good to add, but it is best to avoid oily food, dairy products and citrus fruit peelings.

Larger wormeries such as the 'Can-O-Worms' can be kept on a balcony or in a porch, shed or garage. They can also be located outdoors in a sheltered place, and they will need some extra protection during cold periods to prevent the worms from freezing.

The Can-O-Worms is available at cost price (£66) via the Waste Aware Scotland website:

W: [www.wasteawareScotland.org.uk/compost](http://www.wasteawareScotland.org.uk/compost) (click on 'Additional Bins') or

T: 0845 077 0756

Size = W50cm X H73cm

Changeworks uses a Can-O-Worms, so if you would like more details contact:

E: [wasteprevention@changeworks.org.uk](mailto:wasteprevention@changeworks.org.uk)

T: 0131 555 4010

If you don't have too much space, smaller wormeries can be kept indoors e.g. the 'Junior Wormery' (£31.45) from Original Organics is the size of a bucket:

[www.originalorganics.co.uk](http://www.originalorganics.co.uk)

T: 01884 841 515

Wiggly Wigglers produce the Can-O-Worms and also sell two other types of wormeries, the 'WormFactory' and the 'WasteJuggler'. For further information:

[www.wigglywigglers.co.uk](http://www.wigglywigglers.co.uk)

T: 0800 216 990



## Bokashi System

A bokashi system is a really easy way to turn kitchen food waste - including cooked and uncooked food, meat, fish, bones, dairy products, bread, pasta, fruit scraps and vegetable peelings - into nutrient-rich compost.

Kitchen waste is placed into an airtight container and sprinkled with a handful of bokashi. This is a bran-based material made with a culture of friendly micro-organisms that begins to ferment the waste. After only two weeks the contents can be added to a compost bin or buried in the ground to finish the composting process. Large quantities of micro-organisms are rapidly released to nourish the soil naturally. Bokashi systems come in packs of two so that you can leave one to ferment whilst you fill the other. As they have air-tight lids, even the smelliest food scraps can be composted indoors, without smells.

Available at cost price (£25 for two units) via:

W: [www.wasteawareScotland.org.uk/compost](http://www.wasteawareScotland.org.uk/compost) (click on 'Additional Bins') or

T: 0845 077 0756

The price also includes a scoop, inner drain tray and two months' supply of bokashi bran. Size per unit = W32cm X D26cm X H37cm.

For further information see:

W: [www.greengardener.co.uk/bokashi](http://www.greengardener.co.uk/bokashi)

## Food Digester (Green Cone)

The Green Cone is a food waste digester that requires very little maintenance once installed. It can dispose of most types of kitchen food waste including cooked and uncooked food, meat, fish, bones, dairy products, bread, pasta, fruit scraps and vegetable peelings (NB: the Green Cone cannot compost garden waste). The design of the Green Cone breaks food down into Carbon Dioxide and nutrient-rich water that drains away into the soil. A small amount of residue is also produced, but will only need to be removed every few years.

The Green Cone must be placed in a sunny part of the garden in free-draining soil. It is supplied in four parts including a lower basket that must be buried in a hole in the ground approximately 80cm wide and 60cm deep. This basket then forms the base for an upper assembly consisting of a black inner cone and a green outer lidded plastic cone.

Available at cost price (£49) via the Waste Aware Scotland website:

W: [www.wasteawareScotland.org.uk/compost](http://www.wasteawareScotland.org.uk/compost) (click on 'Additional Bins') or

T: 0845 077 0756

The price also includes accelerator powder and an application jar. Accelerator powder is used on occasions to help the digestion process when there are long periods of cold weather or lack of direct sunshine. Size = W59cm X H70cm (above ground).

For more information about the Green Cone contact:

W: [www.greencone.co.uk](http://www.greencone.co.uk)

T: 0800 731 2572

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Paper copies are available on request, but we'd prefer you to download it from our website - if possible.