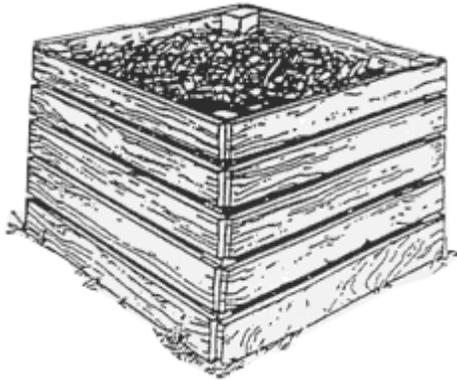


Wooden-Pallet Holding Unit

A holding unit can be built inexpensively using wooden pallets or lumber may be used to make a nicer looking bin. The costs will vary, depending on whether new lumber or pallets are used. Used pallets are often available from manufacturers and landfills.



Building a Holding Unit: Wooden Pallets

1. Nail or wire four pallets together to make a four sided bin at least 3 feet x 3 feet x 3 feet. The bin is ready to use.
2. A fifth pallet can be used as a base to allow more air to get into the pile and increase the stability of the bin.

Materials

- four wooden pallets (five pallets if you want a bottom in the container), sized to make a four-sided container at least 3 feet x 3 feet x 3 feet.
 - nails
 - baling wire
- or**
- two eight-foot lengths of 2 x 4 lumber
 - galvanized 8d nails (1 pound)

Tools

- saw
- sledge hammer
- claw hammer
- work gloves

Building a Holding Unit: Lumber

1. Saw the 8-foot lengths of 2 x 4 lumber into four pieces, each 4 feet long, to be used as corner posts.
2. Choose a 3-foot-square site for your compost bin. Use the sledge hammer to pound the four posts into the ground 3 feet apart, at the corners of the square.
3. Saw each of the 12-foot boards into four 3-foot pieces. Allowing five boards to a side and, starting at the bottom, nail the boards to the posts to make a four sided container. Leave 2 inches between the boards to allow air to get into the pile.
4. If you wish to decrease your composting time, build a second holding unit so that the wastes in one can mature while you add wastes to the other.