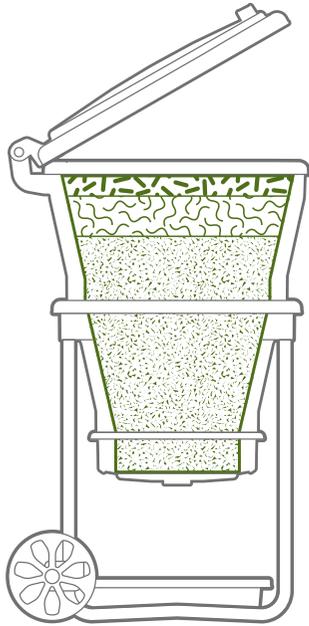


HOW TO START YOUR HUNGRY BIN

Your hungry bin is one of the best ways to compost your food scraps and garden waste. It is also one of the fastest ways to make the best fertilizer there is. The worms in your hungry bin can eat their weight in food a day, and a full population can process up to 2kg of food and garden waste every day. Starting your hungry bin is easy, but it's best to follow a few simple rules. These handy tips should help you get the most out of your hungry bin as soon as possible, and help to keep it in the best condition.

START

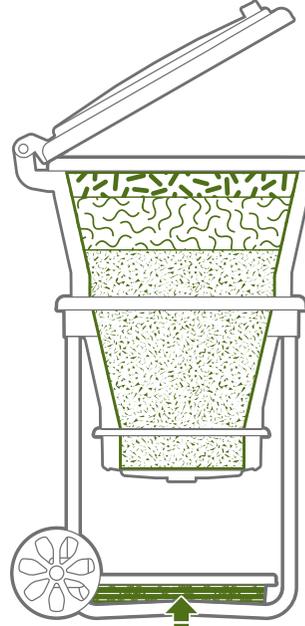
80L moist bedding. Add worms. No more than 20mm of fresh food to start.



START: Fill your hungry bin $\frac{3}{4}$ full with bedding material (80L of compost, free draining soil). Moisten with water and add at least 2000 worms. Add 20mm of fresh food and cover with a sheet of newspaper or cardboard. Place your hungry bin in a sheltered shady spot — out of the sun if possible.

WEEK 2-8

Worms multiplying. Add food as required. Keep moist.



WEEK 2-4: Feed the bin slowly at first, only add food as fast as it is being eaten. There may only be minimal worm activity. Add more food only when half the food has been eaten. You may notice the food becoming mouldy, or other insects present in the top of the bin.

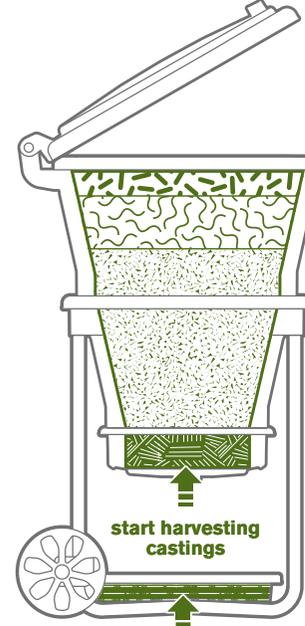
WEEK 4-8: Feed every few days, but don't add food until half the previous layer of food has been eaten. It is important that the worms eat the food before it becomes rotten and smelly. Sprinkle with water if the bin is becoming dry, or liquid is not draining from the bin.

HOW TO KEEP YOUR HUNGRY BIN IN GOOD CONDITION

- Do not over feed your hungry bin. Only add food as fast as it is being eaten.
- Add plenty of fibre – shredded paper or cardboard, dry leaves, dried lawn clippings etc — around about the same quantity (by weight) as the food scraps you are adding.
- If required, add water to keep the top layer moist.
- Keep your hungry bin cool — a sheltered shady spot is best, out of the full sun.

WEEK 8-16

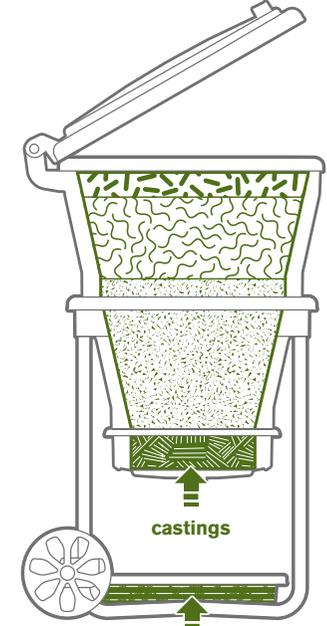
Large population of worms. Feed every few days.



WEEK 8-16: Feed every 2-3 days, ensuring that the uneaten food is no more than 50mm deep. Worms should have doubled in population by now, there will be a noticeable increase in activity. You see worm castings (fine dark looking soil) accumulating around the food.

WEEK 16+

Worms at peak population; Feed up to 2kg per day.



WEEK 16+: Feed every day or 2 as required; worms should have formed a large active layer immediately below the food. The hungry bin should reach optimum performance and maximum population – over 10,000 worms! Take care to ensure the food is not rotting before the worms have a chance to eat it. If needed add fibre to help balance the farm, (shredded paper, cardboard, dry leaves or dried lawn clippings) to help keep your hungry bin smelling sweet.



Freephone 0508 685 685
www.hungrybin.co.nz

Visit our FAQ section for more trouble shooting info:
<http://www.hungrybin.co.nz/instructions/faq-troubleshooting/>

KEY: Fresh Food  Worms  Bedding Material 