

FOGO user guide

Food Organics Garden Organics

Welcome to FOGO

What is FOGO?

FOGO stands for Food Organics Garden Organics. It is a convenient and environmentally-friendly way for you to dispose of your organic waste.

Why FOGO?

By collecting nutrient-rich food waste and garden waste, we can generate a high quality compost to use on farms, parks and gardens. We can avoid valuable organic waste going to landfill where it produces methane—a potent greenhouse gas that contributes to climate change.

As a FOGO user you will receive a benchtop caddy and a year's worth of compostable liners to assist in sorting your food waste in the kitchen.

Where does my food and garden waste go?

Your FOGO bin contents are sent to a composting facility and turned into valuable compost to be used in farms, parks and gardens both locally and across Victoria.



Already composting?

Fantastic! Thank you for your efforts, keep up the great work! The FOGO system does not replace home composting but can work well alongside worm farms and home composting.

Your FOGO bin can take some of those hard to compost items and things that worms do not like to eat, such as citrus, meat, bones, dairy, animal droppings, kitty litter and compostable packaging. These items won't break down through home composting systems as they require high temperatures of industrial composting.

Handy hints

- Remember *If it used to live or grow, then it's FOGO!*
- Remove stickers from fruit peels and skins.
- Allow hot food to cool before putting in caddy or FOGO bin.
- Large amounts of food waste can go straight into your FOGO bin without a liner.
- Keep your FOGO bin out of the sun and in a cool place with the lid closed to avoid odours.

Questions on the FOGO service? Visit the website for details and more handy hints [mrsc.vic.gov.au/FOGO](https://www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/FOGO) or contact our customer service team **5422 0333**.



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How to use your FOGO service



Step one

Place the provided compostable liner* in your caddy.



Always look for these symbols on packaging. If it doesn't have them, it doesn't go in your FOGO bin.



Step two

Use the caddy and liner to collect your food waste.



Step three

After a few days, tie up the liner to seal and remove from the caddy.

Handy hint: Empty your caddy regularly to reduce odour and risk of heavy bags splitting.



Step four

Place your food waste (including compostable liner) into your FOGO bin (lime green lid), along with any garden waste.



Step five

Put your FOGO bin out **weekly** for kerbside collection. Refer to your bin collection calendar for collection dates.

What CAN go in your FOGO bin

-  **✓** Fruit and vegetable scraps e.g. onion, garlic and citrus
-  **✓** Meat, bones, seafood and egg shells
-  **✓** Dairy products e.g. cheese, yogurt and butter
-  **✓** Coffee grounds and tea leaves
-  **✓** Bread, pasta and cereals
-  **✓** Cooked and uncooked food
-  **✓** Lawn clippings, weeds, leaves, small plants and roses
-  **✓** Bark and sawdust
-  **✓** Prunings and small branches (less than 3cm in diameter and less than 30cm long)
-  **✓** Pizza boxes and food-soiled paper
-  **✓** Compostable kitty litter, animal droppings, hair and animal fur
-  **✓** Compostable plant-based packaging and items (cutlery, plates, cups, etc.)
-  **✓** Wooden icy pole sticks, toothpicks, cold ash
-  **✓** Used paper towel and tissues, shredded paper

What CANNOT go in your FOGO bin

-  **✗** No plastic bags. **Use compostable liners only**
-  **✗** General waste and liquids
-  **✗** Fruit stickers and labels
-  **✗** Plastic bags and soft plastics (e.g. cling wrap)
-  **✗** Magazines, catalogues and waxed paper
-  **✗** Coffee pods, coffee cups
-  **✗** Nappies, incontinence products and aids
-  **✗** Baby wipes and make-up removal wipes
-  **✗** Plant pots, garden hose, garden tools, etc.
-  **✗** Non compostable kitty litters
-  **✗** Treated and painted woods
-  **✗** Large logs, soil, stumps and branches (greater than 3cm diameter or longer than 30cm)

Remember to put your FOGO bin out for collection weekly, even if it's not full.

*These compostable liners are made from corn starch, not plastic, and will breakdown during the composting process. Newspaper can also be used to line your caddy.