Basic Home Composting Recipe

2-3 Parts Carbon - “Brown” materials
• Woody, dry materials: sawdust or wood shavings, leaves, soiled paper, shredded paper, straw, livestock/animal bedding (chicken, hamster, rabbit, horse, etc.)

1 Part Nitrogen - “Green” materials
• Green, wet materials: food scraps, grass clippings, garden trimmings (no weeds), manures (no cat or dog)

➢ Combine organic materials in proper ratios

Keep it small!
• Mowing, grinding, chipping, or shredding

Contain it!
• Minimum of 3 x 3 x 3
• Bin or pile

A little soil or finished compost

Moisture
• Just a little, like a damp sponge
• Leave lid or cover off during rain
• Required to keep compost microorganisms alive & active

Air/Aeration
• Turn or aerate materials
• Or, place materials on perforated pipes

TIP!
Fill the compost bin or pile halfway or more with leaves (or straw), wet them down uniformly (like a damp sponge). Dig down into the pile and put your food scraps in the hole, cover with a thin layer of wood shavings or chicken manure/bedding. Repeat until full.

Other Needs
• Shovel or Pitch Fork
✓ Or, bobcat/tractor
• Covered area or bin for storage of leaves/carbon sources
• Thermometer
✓ For hot composting