### E.B.Stone

### **ORGANICS**

## Compost Maker

#### **Guaranteed Analys**

Total Nitrogen (N)	4.00%
4.00% Water Insoluble Organic Nit	rogen
Available Phosphate (P2O5)	4.00%
Soluble Potash (K2O)	2.00%
Calcium (Ca)	2.00%

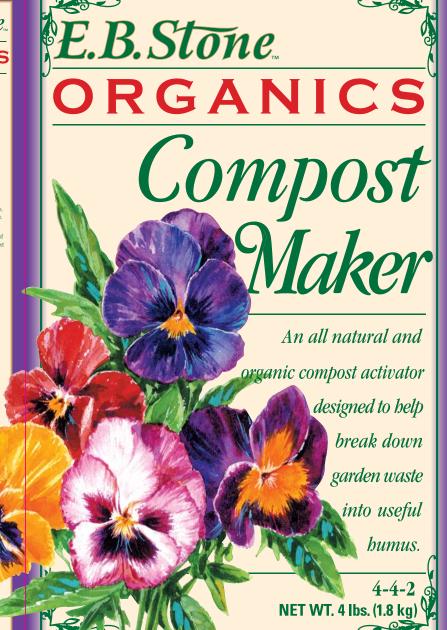
Derived from: Blood Meal, Feather Meal, Bone Meal, Dried Chicken Manure, Bat Guano, Alfalfa Meal, Kelp Meal and Potassium Sulfate.

Information regarding the contents and levels of metals in this product is available on the internet at http://www.regulatory-info-ebs.com

CAUTION: KEEP OUT OF REACH

Storage: Store in a dry cool place.

Keep out of direct sunlight and excessive heat.





# Compost Maker

**E.B. Stone** was raised on an orchard in San Jose, California. As a young man, his crops were the envy of his friends and neighbors. In 1916, after some relentless pushing from his farming friends, E.B. Stone started a fertilizer company in San Jose to sell some of his specialty fertilizer blends to the surrounding orchards and farms.

To keep up with increased demand, he moved the operation to a larger facility in Salinas in 1932. While there, he added different soil blends and started field-applying fertilizers to vegetable growers in the Salinas Valley. E.B. Stone was a pioneer in the development of specialty fertilizers, which he kept a closely held secret.

Today, many of the soils and fertilizers sold under the E.B. Stone brand are based upon E.B. Stone's original formulas. We don't sell much to farmers anymore. The home gardener is the object of most of our attention. Even though he passed away long ago, he would be proud of the mixes that bear his name. The results are still the envy of the neighborhood.

### www.ebstone.org

E.B. STONE & SON, INC. P.O. Box 550 SUISUN, CA 94585



E.B. Stone Compost Maker is a blend of natural and organic ingredients designed to supplement the needs of the home composter. In addition to providing the nitrogen necessary for proper composting Compost Maker also helps to enrich the finished compost by supplying additional nutrients. It is ideal for use when making compost with large amounts of dry, brown materials high in carbon.

#### Directions

Home composting is an easy way to recycle what would otherwise be waste products into an invaluable soil building resource. It is easy for anyone to produce rich compost from garden debris, weeds and plant trimmings by keeping a few basic concepts in mind. All of your grass clippings and leaves can be converted into rich humus that helps to return vitality to garden soils.

Begin by selecting a site that is sheltered from drying winds and hot afternoon sun. A compost pile can be free standing or made using any of the home compost bins or enclosures readily available today. Ideally to achieve the hottest temperatures your pile should be at least 1 cubic yard in volume (3 ft. X 3 ft. X 3 ft.).

The three critical elements to making compost are the balance of the raw materials in the pile, air and water. Generally there are two types of ingredients in the pile: Green material, high in nitrogen, like grass clippings, kitchen scraps, fresh green weeds and fresh manure. Brown material, high in carbon is the second component needed for making good compost. These ingredients include woody dry material like sawdust, straw, dry grass clippings, shredded limbs and branches and fallen leaves.

Because high carbon material is slow to decompose it is important to provide adequate green high nitrogen material to facilitate the active decay of the compost pile. To achieve the proper balance of material put layers of brown high carbon ingredients next to layers of green high nitrogen material and layers of dry ingredients next to wet ingredients. In this fashion, start with your coarsest brown material on the bottom and build a layer 6-8 inches thick, on top of that add a 3-4 inch layer of green material, sprinkle 1-2 cups of Compost Maker over this layer, water sufficiently to wet both layers and cap with a thin layer of garden soil

or old compost 1/8 to 1/4 inch thick. This will help to inoculate the pile with the microorganisms that work to decompose the organic matter in the compost.

If you're building a pile with excess green waste like grass clippings or kitchen waste keep the layers thin and supplement the pile with a carbon source like straw. Use less Compost Maker in these piles. If, on the other hand, you have mostly brown material you can add extra Compost Maker to ensure there is adequate nitrogen for the pile to break down. Layers of materials like leaves should be kept thin to ensure that they do not get soggy and mat.

Repeat this layering process adding Compost Maker and watering every couple of layers. Cap the pile with 2-3 inches of soil.

To ensure that the pile has enough air while it breaks down it helps to turn the pile periodically. Once or twice a month should be sufficient, more frequent turning can result in a faster decomposition. Use a compost thermometer to check the temperature of the pile and after it has peaked and begun to cool turn the pile. When turning, try to mix the outside less decomposed material into the center where it can be exposed to high temperatures. If the temperature of the pile begins to go over 150° Fahrenheit turn the pile to keep the temperature in a more moderate range.

Keep your compost evenly moist, about the dampness of a moist sponge. It may be necessary to water it periodically as you turn it, particularly if the pile reaches very high temperatures.

Your compost should be finished within a few months. Ideally it should smell like fresh earth and not look like the raw materials that it was made from. To use it spread it over the garden as a mulch, or mix it into garden beds prior to planting.

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