



Garden Notes

GN 162

COMPOST SIFTER BUILDING INSTRUCTIONS

Sifting separates finished from unfinished compost. Finished compost can be used as a soil amendment or mulch, and the unfinished compost can be returned to the working compost pile. The sifter, described below, fits over a standard wheelbarrow and makes sifting easy.

Tools

- Wire snips
- Drill with screw bits

Materials

- ½" hardware cloth, 24" x 29"
- Wood glue
- 3- 1" x 2" x 8' redwood or cedar boards cut as follows:
4 @ 21" 2 @ 24" 2 @ 29½"
- 24- 1¼" deck or drywall screws

Step 1

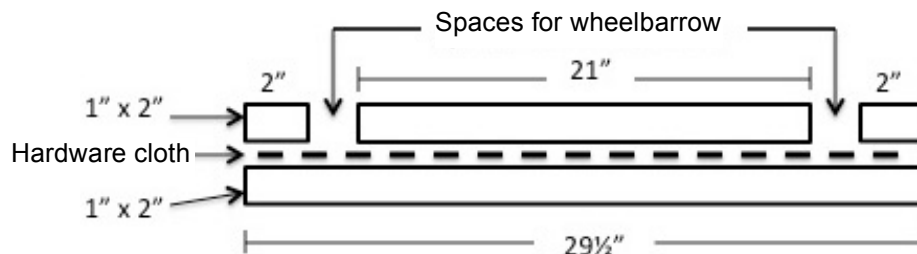
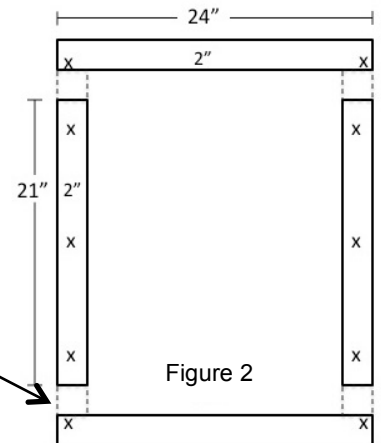
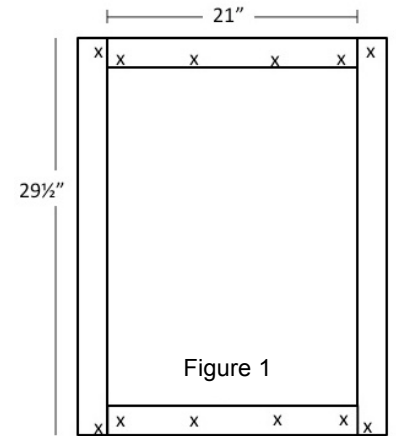
- Cut wood pieces to length
- Snip hardware cloth into a 23½" x 29" piece, cutting off any sharp ends.

Step 2

- Assemble wood pieces on a worktable as shown in Figure 1.
- Lay hardware cloth over the wood strips, making sure the edges of the hardware cloth are sitting on the wood.
- Squeeze glue in corners and along the wood pieces.
- Lay the remaining wood pieces (Figure 2) over the hardware cloth. Note the spaces on each side where the sifter fits on the wheelbarrow.

Step 3

- On the side now facing up, put screws where Xs are shown in Figure 2. Flip over and screw where Xs are in Figure 1. Pay special attention to placement of the corner screws. Screws on both sides of the corners control torque from weight of the compost. Let glue dry for 24 hours before using.



Side view of sifter construction
(bottom side is up)

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