How to make a D.S.Y worm farm





Plastic containers x 2 Lid x 1

Containers should be of the same size and at least 10 litres and preferably not see through, worms are not fond of daylight. If you only have clear boxes you can cover the sides to keep the worms in the dark.



Drill x 1 1 inch Hole Saw Attachment x 1 (not essential)

If you have a 1 inch hole saw attachment you can insert a tap in the external container.



Worm Bedding x 1

Shredded paper (not glossy) or coconut coir. If you have access to horse manure this is an excellent bedding and worm feed.



Composting worms x 200g

Tiger worms are the most commonly used in the UK. Deep burrowing garden worms are not suitable for composting, they will not be happy and die. Composting worms are surface dwellers, feeding off fresh rotting organic matter, ideal for eating your kitchen scraps.



Plastic tap x 1 (not essential)

You can add a tap to the external container 1 inch from the bottom to make it easier harvesting worm wee.



Step 1.

Drill about 15 drainage holes in the bottom of one of the plastic containers.



Step 2.

Drill air holes in the lid, or if your worm farm will not be under cover instead drill holes around the top of the same plastic container you drilled drainage holes into. This will prevent worms from drowning when it rains.



Step 3.

Insert the plastic container with drainage holes into the second container. The bottom container will collect excess liquid which you can use as a liquid fertiliser. This is very concentrated and should be diluted 1:10.

If you have a 1 inch hole saw attachment you can insert a tap in the external container.



Step 4.

Apply four inches of your chosen bedding material evenly on the bottom of the container with drainage holes. Bedding should be aerated and moist, resembling the dampness of a sponge. If using shredded paper give it a fluff to avoid compaction.



Step 5.

Add your worms and check the bottom container regularly for worm wee, dilute 1:10 with water and feed to your plants. Wait about 3-6 months to harvest worm manure and worms.

Harvest your worms and manure



Step 1.

When your Worm Farm is full and ready to be harvested empty the contents onto a plastic mat.



Step 2.

Make little mounds. The worms will gradually migrate to the bottom to avoid the light.



Step 3.

Every 5-10 minutes tap the worm manure aka worm castings off the top.



Step 4.

Repeat this until all the worm manure has been harvested and you are left with only worms.



Step 5.

Set up another Worm Farm and begin the process again.