

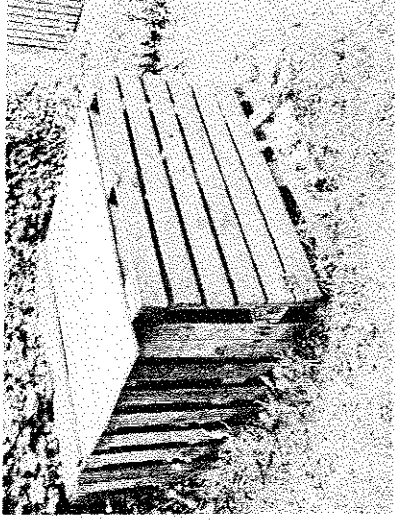
# Building a compost box

The following instructions describe how to make a composter from reused wooden pallets.

The chipboard lid opens to allow organic material to be added. A flap at the base of the box allows compost to be removed. The flap can be secured in an open position using a latch.

## Materials and equipment

- 4 equal sized pallets for the sides
- 2 lengths of chipboard for the lid (one for the secured back half and one for the flap at the front). Make sure that they are big enough to overhang at the front.
- 4 hinges, 1 latch, nails
- Chicken wire to cover base and staple gun (if rodents are an issue)
- Wood preserver and brush (optional)
- Spade, drill, saw

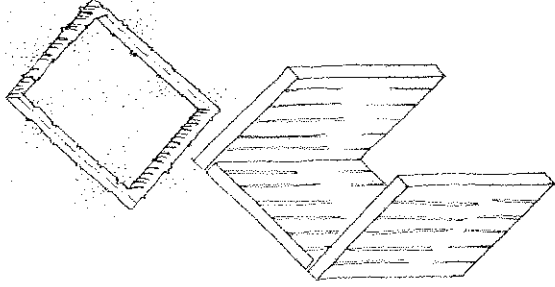


## Building the box

### Sides

Pallets vary in size. Assess how yours will best fit together. (The slats on the front pallet should be horizontal. The others can be horizontal or vertical.)

1. Mark out the area on the ground where the pallets will sit.
2. Dig trenches to sit the pallets in (approximately 4-6 inches deep).
3. Sit 3 pallets in the trenches (leave the front pallet off) and nail together.



### Base

Chicken wire can be stapled across the base of the box.

### Front

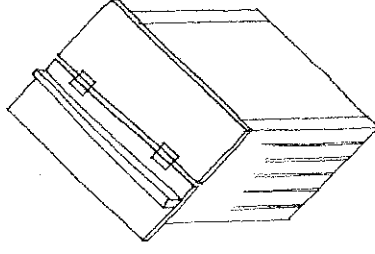
1. Pull the lowest 2 or 3 slats off the front pallet. Nail to a spare section of wood to make a flap. Fix back on with 2 hinges.
2. Fix the latch so that the flap can be secured in an open position.
3. Nail the front pallet in place.



### Lid

Cut the chipboard to size so that it overhangs slightly at the front.

1. Nail one length of chipboard across the back half of the top of the box.
2. Using 2 hinges fix the other length of chipboard onto the existing chipboard to form a flap. Leave an overhang at the front to open the lid.
3. To avoid a finger trap nail a small section of wood halfway along the back board.



### Finishing

Paint with wood preserver (optional).