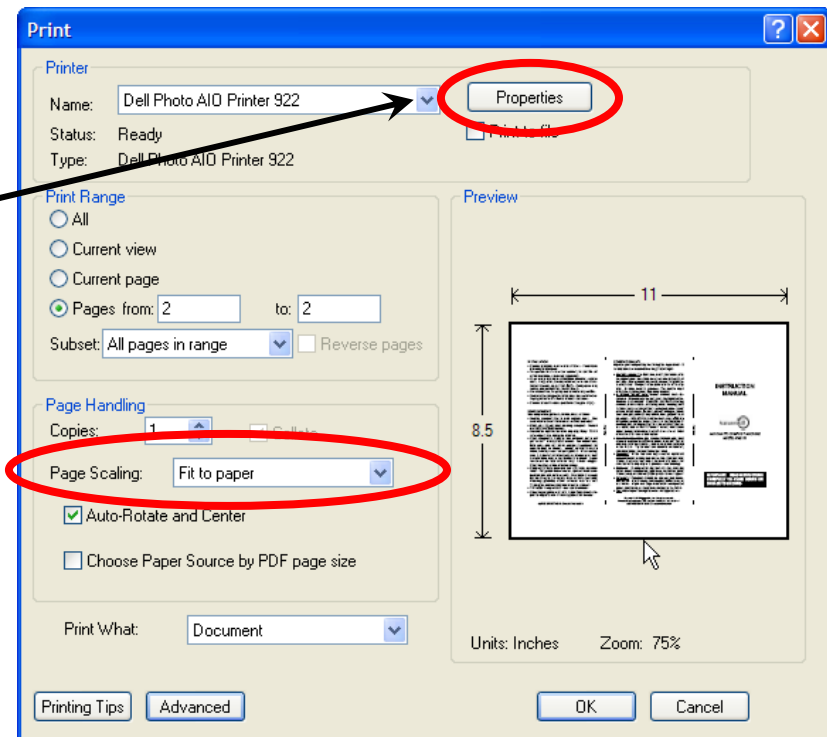


Directions for Printing Instruction Manual

The instruction manual is located below – just scroll down to read it.

To print, follow these steps:

1. We recommend printing on legal size paper if you have it. You can also use ordinary letter paper. Indicate your paper size by clicking on “Properties.”
2. Set “Page Scaling” to “Fit to paper”.



INSTALLATION

- Choose a location in or near the kitchen. Food waste is messy to transport.
- **To operate in a closet or cabinet, install the air extension tube, enclosed separately.**
- Keep unit in the warmest location possible: near an oven, refrigerator, laundry machine, or in direct sun. Hotter is better, up to 120F (50C). Cold places may reduce compost quality. **Never freeze.**
- For outdoor use, keep dry and as warm as possible.
- Unit must be plugged in at all times to control odors. Unplug for **no more than 5 minutes** at a time.
- Choose a level location (maximum 2 degree slope).

USING COMPOST

Use compost on gardens, shrubs, trees, or lawns.

- Healthy compost has a mild organic odor. See COMPOST QUALITY for more on results and odors.
- Wash your hands after handling compost. Review the PRECAUTIONS section.
- Discard the liquid in the white drip tray, if any. This is not compost tea. It may be harmful.
- Fresh compost is ready for use outdoors, but is not yet “cured.” It may attract insects. **For indoor use, first cure and dry fresh compost outdoors** for several days or weeks. Ideally, spread it over a warm, breezy corner of your garden. If necessary, cure in a bucket or flower pot, on a balcony or roof. A small drain hole in the bottom is required. Leave uncovered so that cultures may receive oxygen. Cold, freezing, or rain will slow curing.
- Compost is very powerful and can burn sensitive roots. **For gentle time-release, spread fresh compost on the soil surface only.** One batch is enough for 10-40 sq ft (1-4 sq m), once or twice per year. Watering gradually draws nutrients into the soil. Turning the soil annually also mixes in nutrients.
- TIP: make “compost tea” - see naturemill.com.
- Experienced gardeners: mix 1 part *fully cured* compost to 10 parts soil. Full curing takes 2-4 months.

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COMPOST QUALITY

Improve your compost by fine tuning the ingredients. It usually takes several batches to get it just right.

- **Healthy compost** is dark, firm, moist, and warm, with an organic odor like damp wool, sourdough bread, or wet hay. Strong foods like meat, cheese, or garlic intensify odors. Compost often spills into the white drip tray. Surface mold is common. The bottom layer may have a strong odor if partially flooded.
- **A strong “trash” odor** means cultures were destroyed. Material may be wet, cool, and light brown. Remove and discard. **CAUSES:** insufficient starting cultures, brown waste, or baking soda; flooding; cold location; soap or chemicals; unplugged power cord; excess acidic waste (berries, grapes, oranges, tomatoes, vinegar, pickles); any lemon, lime, grapefruit, or pineapple. **SOLUTION:** Add two more cups (500 ml) of healthy soil to the hopper; be sure the air pump is working with air flowing out the air exhaust tube on the back; add sufficient “brown” items; limit acidic items; review instructions and reference sheet. Odor will cease after one or two cycles.
- **An ammonia odor** (like commercial-strength floor cleaner) indicates insufficient brown material. This is common with food waste. Add more brown material in the future. Try at least two handfuls of sawdust, shredded paper, or yard leaves per load.
- **Flooding:** If the red cure tray contains liquid but compost looks healthy and dry on top, add less fruit, lettuce, and other wet items, or more dry items. Be sure the white drip tray is in position – see drawing.
- **Dryness:** If compost is dry and crunchy, with dry areas poorly composted, add more wet items (fruit, lettuce, etc.), or add 4oz (120ml) water to the hopper.
- **Structure:** Compost should be spongy and loose, like mulch. If it is lumpy, add smaller, softer items in the future. If you see large individual uncomposted items, avoid them or chop them smaller in the future.
- **Tip:** sift compost through a screen for appearance.

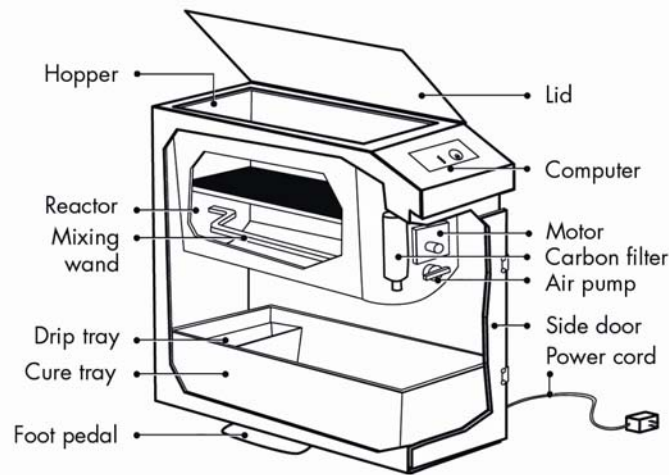
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INSTRUCTION MANUAL



AUTOMATIC COMPOST MACHINE MODEL NM5101

**IMPORTANT: READ INSTRUCTIONS
CAREFULLY TO AVOID ODORS OR
DAMAGE TO MACHINE.**



⚠ PRECAUTIONS ⚠

- WASH HANDS after handling compost.
- Keep compost away from FOOD and DISHES.
- Supervise CHILDREN near fresh compost.
- Always wash garden vegetables before eating them.
- Cut waste items into **ONE INCH (2.5 CM) PIECES**.
- DO NOT unplug the machine for longer than five minutes at a time, or odors may result.
- Close the lid and side door tightly to limit odors. Push lid down if needed. Clear debris from seals.
- Read instructions thoroughly. Check naturemill.com periodically for updates.
- Follow the list of recommended items. **Avoid items that could cause odors or jamming.**
- DO NOT overfill or compress the hopper.
- DO NOT clean the inner reactor. This destroys compost cultures, resulting in odors.
- **A strong “trash” odor means compost cultures have been destroyed.** See COMPOST QUALITY.
- In a prolonged power outage, place a heavy book or bowl on the lid and do not open.

visit naturemill.com for more information

FIRST USE INSTRUCTIONS

1. Place the white drip tray inside the red cure tray. Insert them into the machine **with the white drip tray at the far end, away from the side door**. See drawing. Latch the side door tightly closed.
2. If the hopper floor dropped open during shipping, lift it up until it locks into place horizontally.
3. Unit must be plugged in at all times to limit odors.
4. “Activate” compost by introducing natural compost cultures into the hopper. **Add two cups (500 ml) of healthy soil from your garden or a local park.** Use uncontaminated soil where healthy plants normally grow. Cold, frozen, or wet soil is ok. Add just once; cultures should remain indefinitely.

DAILY OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Always close lid and side door to limit odors. Press lid down if necessary. Clear any debris from seals.
2. Add waste items to the hopper. **Cut into 1 inch (2.5 cm) pieces.** Do not pulverize in a food processor. Follow the reference list. You may see steam rising.
3. Spread 4 heaping tablespoons (150g) baking soda across each hopper load to control acidity and odors. Add gradually as you fill the hopper.
4. Fill hopper **every 3 to 6 days** for best results. Overloading or compressing the hopper will cause a jam. Under-filling reduces compost quality.
5. When the hopper is full and the lid barely closes, AND you have more items to add, push the OK button to initiate cycling. Cycling takes 15 minutes. Some material may remain in hopper after cycling.
6. NOTE: cycling will be **delayed until 48 hours** since the last cycle, to ensure sufficient composting time. If you don’t push the OK button, cycling will occur **automatically every 6 days** to limit odors.
7. Do not empty until the FULL light comes on. When the FULL light comes on, remove the trays and empty them outdoors to limit odors. **Reinsert the empty trays quickly**, with the white drip tray at the far end away from the side door. Latch the side door. Push the OK button to resume operation.

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CLEANING & MAINTENANCE

- NEVER use soaps, sprays, or chemicals. DO NOT clean the inner reactor. This destroys the cultures.
- Remove debris from seals and from cure tray area.
- Wipe exterior and hopper with a damp paper towel.
- TIP: If some waste remains in the hopper after cycling, spread coffee grounds or baking soda on the hopper floor after cycling to prevent sticking.
- Rinse the red cure tray and white drip tray with a garden hose when you empty them.
- Replace the air filter annually or as exhaust odors develop. See naturemill.com.
- To discontinue use: run unit for 2 weeks. Empty both trays. Spray inside of unit with garden hose jet spray. Let dry outdoors for several days.

CLEARING A JAM

In the rare event that the JAM light comes on:

1. Push the OK button. This may clear the jam.
2. Check that the hopper floor is closed (in the horizontal position). If not, pull it up until it locks in place and then press OK. If you can’t do that, *hold the OK button for 5 seconds* until the lights flash.
3. If it jams again, open the reactor by *pushing down on the rear center of the hopper floor with a spoon, below the lid hinge screws*. First transfer hopper contents into a bucket if necessary.
4. Locate the jammed item in the reactor and remove it. Often it is a **hard item or a thick wad of paper**, between the mixing wand and the reactor bottom.
5. Close the reactor chamber and the lid. Press the OK button. Wait until the READY light comes on and normal operation resumes.
6. In the future, avoid whatever jammed. Add smaller, softer items. Paper should be shredded and loose.

CUSTOMER SERVICE

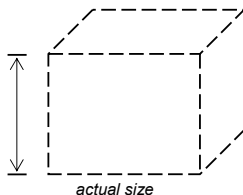
Visit naturemill.com for customer service information. Due to sanitary shipping restrictions, product generally **can not be returned** after exposure to food waste.

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YES



ONE INCH
(2.5 CM)



Cut items into ONE INCH (2.5CM) pieces.

Add EQUAL AMOUNTS of brown and green waste:

BROWN WASTE

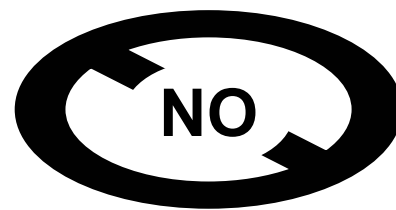
bread, rice, pasta, grains
sugar, cake, candy
nuts, nut shells, straw
corn cobs, corn husks
shredded paper*
laundry lint, cotton, wool
yard leaves, dry flowers
sawdust, wood chips
-> from untreated, unpainted wood

Note: insufficient brown material will result in poor compost quality
Note: jamming may result from paper wads, and large or hard items

GREEN WASTE

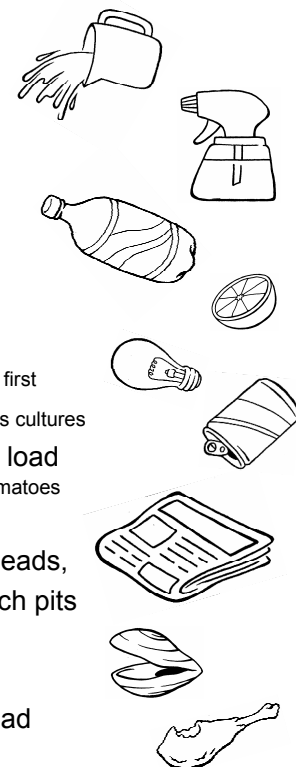
fruit, vegetable scraps
-> except lemon, lime, grapefruit, pineapple
meat, chicken, fish scraps
-> limit to 1 lb (450 g) per load
cheese, eggs, egg shells
coffee grinds, paper filters*
tea leaves, tea bags
fish bones, shrimp tails
grass & plant clippings

NO



Do not compress or overload the hopper.

pourable liquids -> drip-dry items first
chemicals, soaps, cosmetics, medicines
plastic, metal, glass, rubber
frozen or cold items -> bring to room temperature first
lemon, lime, grapefruit, pineapple -> acid kills cultures
limit highly acidic items to 1 lb (450 g) per load
-> oranges, berries, grapes, plums, apples, pickles, tomatoes
whole newspapers, magazines, books*
hard items: chicken or steak bones, fish heads,
wine corks, lobster or clam shells, peach pits
diseased or moldy foods, toothpicks
human or animal waste, diapers, hair
limit strong-smelling items to 4 tbsp per load
-> garlic, onions, blue cheese, chili, curry, etc.



- ➡ **Add 2 tbsp baking soda to each load to reduce acidity and odors. Add 2 more tbsp with acidic or sour foods** (oranges, berries, grapes, tomatoes, pickles, etc.)
- ➡ **The hopper should be moist overall. If it is dry, add wet items such as fruits, lettuce, or 4 oz (120ml) hot water. If wet, add paper or sawdust.**
- ➡ **When the hopper is full AND you have more waste, push the OK button. Cycling is delayed until 48 hours since last cycle.**

PRECAUTION: Keep lid and side door tightly closed, and power on, at all times. *Press the lid down if necessary.* Wash hands after handling compost. Please read instructions.

CLEANING: Never use soaps or chemicals. DO NOT CLEAN THE INNER REACTOR. Wipe the exterior and upper hopper with a damp paper towel. Clear debris from the door seal areas.

* Tear paper into shreds. A cross-cut paper shredder is ideal. Spread evenly across hopper to prevent wadding. Use uncoated paper only. Color ink may be toxic – contact the publisher.