

Buyer's guide / Wormeries

Nature's quality compost makers

Geoff Hodge looks at a range of wormeries so you can find one to produce quality compost and a rich liquid feed

IT SEEMS that recycling is on the increase and more people are composting their garden and kitchen waste. Although a compost heap or compost bin is the most traditional and probably favoured method by most, lots of people do have problems

with them and making good quality compost. Traditional composting can also take many months to achieve a satisfactory result and a compost heap may be too big or unattractive for a small garden. That's where a wormery can come in and solve many of your problems.

Wormeries produce a good quality compost - called vermicompost - are easier to use and look after, are more attractive looking than a heap and, possibly best of all, the worms do all the hard work for you! Also, the nutrient-rich liquid run-off, which in a

compost heap is wasted as it just soaks into the surrounding soil, in most wormeries is collected so you can save and use it as a rich, liquid fertiliser or 'tea'. Even if you have a compost bin, a wormery could supplement your larger scale composting. Composting with

a wormery is relatively clean and maintenance free. The worms eat their way through garden and kitchen waste, even things unsuitable for the compost heap. But don't think you can get away with using earthworms; wormeries use a different species of worm, called

brandlings, tiger worms or red wiggler worms. These are more effective at turning waste material into the black, earthy-smelling, nutrient-rich humus that everyone hopes they can achieve when composting. All in all, a wormery is a great investment.



The Original Wormery

The Original Wormery is completely sealed thanks to its rubberised lid seal, which keeps flies out and worms in. So, it is one of the best to use indoors, say in winter for faster composting than outside. It also features an integrated drainage system to prevent waterlogging. Comes complete, with voucher to buy worms at your convenience.
 ● Size 61cmx43cmx76cm high (24x17x30in)
 ● Price guide £52.90; available from Harrod Horticultural



YOU CAN GROW PLANTS ON TOP OF THIS WORMERY TO MAKE IT AN ORNAMENTAL FEATURE IN YOUR GARDEN

Bubble House Worms Herb Garden Wormery

The Herb Garden Wormery comes with a planter rather than a lid, so you can grow plants on top for an ornamental feature. If you prefer, there is the option of a wooden lid instead of the planter. There is also the option to have it with or without the base unit urn to collect the liquid feed. Available as either two or three tier composter. Supplied with worms with safe bedding.
 ● Size Diameter 40cm (16in) x 75cm (30in) high
 ● Price guide With urn, two composters and planter £105; other sizes, options from £55-£125

Wiggly Wigglers Worm Cafe

Three-tray structure gives easy access to the compost. You can buy the Worm Cafe housing on its own (£69.50) or, better still, the complete kit with Value Pack with everything you need, including worms.
 ● Size 56cmx38cmx75cm high (22x15x24in)
 ● Price guide £106 with worms; £109 with worms voucher



Wormery Store The Worm Hut

The Worm Hut is available in two sizes - three or four trays - depending on how much waste you have. Comes complete with everything you need to get started, including a voucher for worms, or you can buy the four-tray housing only for £59.99. Available in three colours - black, green or terracotta.
 ● Size four-tray model 40cmx40cmx75cm high (16x24in)
 ● Price guide three-tray £76, four-tray £85



The Worm Works Worm Composter

Three-tray stacking system, where the worms move from tray to tray as the composting process proceeds. Comes complete, with worms. Available in three colours - black, green or terracotta.
 ● Size 39cm (15½in) width x 39cm (15½in) height
 ● Price guide £89



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makers



Wormcity Wormery

The Wormcity Wormery is available in three sizes - two, three or four trays - depending on how much waste you have/how large your family is. The trays have been designed so that they slide down inside each other as the worms eat through the material and there is a drain-proof sump. Available in black or dark green.
 ● Size 43cmx43cm (17x17in); height depends on number of trays
 ● Price guide £67, £77 or £87 - GN readers can save a further £10! See panel below for details.

WIN A WORMCITY WORMERY

● We have 3 of the Best Buy wormery to give away! Send your name and address to Garden News Wormery Giveaway, PO Box 57, Coates, Peterborough PE7 2FE or enter online at www.greatcompetitions.co.uk Closing date is August 23. Please write 'do not contact' if you don't want to be contacted by us or by carefully selected partner organisations.

EXCLUSIVE READER OFFER

● Don't worry if you don't win as GN readers can save £10 on this Wormcity Wormery. Simply add the code 'gardennews' when you check out online.

Suppliers

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- Harrod Horticultural
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