

## **HOTBIN Composter, 2019 winner of the Chelsea Flower Show Product of the Year, is now in Switzerland**

### **What Is HOTBIN?**

The HOTBIN Composter has the ability to fundamentally impact and change the way we dispose of bio waste here in Switzerland. Essentially HOTBIN means less use of plastic bags, fewer trips to the recycling centres and less waste incinerated. For a small black box, the HOTBIN definitely has reach and impact.

### **How does HOTBIN work?**

HOTBIN is a compact, wheelie-bin-sized insulated container that reaches hot composting temperatures of 40-60 degrees. Waste is fed into the top and compost removed via a hatch at the bottom in 90 days.

Waste contains bacteria which naturally heats up during its breakdown (there are no power sources or accelerators needed).

HOTBIN retains that natural heat with its thick insulating walls, accelerating the rate of decay to produce compost fast. The heat is maintained by regular feeding of waste, shredded paper to control moisture and wood chips for aeration. A great way to dispose of old documents, paper packaging and junk mail!

### **What is HOTBIN made from?**

The HOTBIN is made from ARPRO® Expanded Polypropylene also known as "EPP", the unique properties of which insulate the heat generated naturally by bacteria as it breaks the waste down inside.

This is a specialist, multi-use material that is very durable that also has tremendous insulation properties. ARPRO EPP offers high impact strength and is used extensively throughout the automotive industry, primarily in impact protection components such as car bumpers and children's bicycle safety helmets.

Lightweight (96% air) the material has a high strength to weight ratio, is non-toxic, waterproof and 100% recyclable.

### **How much compost does HOTBIN produce annually?**

Output depends upon each household's usage and how often the bin is emptied.

On average each time the HOTBIN is emptied about 40% of the content is removed. Amounts generated are approximately:

HOTBIN Mini (100L)	40L/3 months	160L annually
HOTBIN Mark2 (200L)	80L/3 months	320L annually

## What is the difference between HOTBIN and other composters available in Switzerland?

Simply put: containment of heat and odours.

### Heat

Other composters are primarily made of linked panels. This construction allows some loss of heat, particularly in winter temperatures, when these bins reflect the external ambient temperature. HOTBIN is a seamless bin and works like a chimney, consistently maintaining temperatures of between 40-60 degrees year-round.

### Odours

The HOTBIN's in-built bio-filter helps minimise all odours below nuisance level. Other composters do not have this filter. Odours are not only unpleasant but run the risk of attracting flies and vermin, who are drawn to the source of smells.

## What are the differences between cold composting and hot composting?

- Hot Composting will work all year round. Compost heaps are dormant during the winter, heating up again in spring when temperatures rise.
- Hot composting can process a wider variety of waste (ie. Bones and meat).
- Cold compost bins tend to be constructed with open vents, hatches and access, so they not only attract pests, but allow access to the heap and food waste, creating the infamous swarms of flies and possibly vermin nests.
- HOTBIN composts **32 times faster** than cold composting and reaches temperatures which kill off weed seeds, pathogens and fly larvae.

## How easy is HOTBIN to install and where should we place it?

HOTBIN arrives ready to start composting. Simply remove it from the compostable cardboard box. With a solid base HOTBIN can stand on any flat surface, in sun or shade, on grass, paving or patio.

The slimline HOTBIN Mini fits easily in most small urban gardens.

## What are the benefits of HOTBIN?

- **NO** tumbling or turning
- **NO** accelerators / power source
- **NO** bad odours
- **NO** trips to recycling centres (for biowaste)
- Compost in 30-90 days
- Kills weeds and seeds
- Produces liquid fertiliser

## Does HOTBIN reduce the amount of waste going to Incineration?

**Absolutely.**

Recycling food waste in Switzerland is a troublesome process today due to the fact that households need to buy special plastic bags and dispose of it via communal bins which may require traveling distances and/or at specific times. Therefore, many households choose not to separate bio waste. Waste statistics show that food waste represents 30% of all general waste that is incinerated.

HOTBIN takes all food/green waste at home, no need to mix wastes, use more plastic bags, travel to recycling centres. HOTBIN removes the hassle-factor and saves money, creates a great compost, boosts recycling rates and reduces costs for the homeowner, communes and the Cantons.

## How much does it cost and where can we buy it?

The HOTBIN comes in 2 sizes:

HOTBIN Mini (100L)	380CHF
HOTBIN Mark 2 (200L)	450CHF

HOTBIN is available online at [www.hotbin.ch](http://www.hotbin.ch)

## Has HOTBIN won any accolades for its performance?

Grow Your Own Award: Best New Product 2012

Great British Growing Awards: Best New Veg Growing Product - 3rd Place 2015

Great British Growing Awards: Most Effective Composting Product - Bronze 2016

Great Britain Growing Awards: Best Compost Making Product 2018

RHS Chelsea Flower Show: **Product of the Year 2019**