THE GREEN CONE

All you need to know to
‘INSTALL & USE’
effectively day after day

USEFUL ADDITIONS FOR THE GREEN CONE:

The 23 Litre External Food Waste Caddy – just £10.49

If you have a larger family, you may wish to consider our external food waste caddy. It is designed to store more food waste away from the kitchen.

Additional Accelerator powder (pack of 3) – just £9.95

A three pack of our Green Cone accelerators. These are designed to ensure a healthy and active bacterial population in your Green Cone food waste digester.

HOW TO GET IN TOUCH WITH GREAT GREEN SYSTEMS

Call: 0800 731 2572

Click: www.greatgreensystems.co.uk

e-mail: support@greatgreensystems.com

Address: 33 Park Place, Leeds, West Yorkshire, United Kingdom, LS1 2RY
Thank you for choosing the Green Cone

You are now ready to start composting and reducing your carbon footprint from your own garden. This handy guide contains all the information you need to effectively set up, use & maintain your food waste digester.

Please remember to keep this guide handy throughout the year so that you can check on any queries that may arise during the changing seasons.

HOW TO GET THE MOST FROM YOUR NEW GREEN CONE

It’s now time to familiarise yourself with the key components that make up the Green Cone and understand how to keep the simple eco balance of the digester working at an optimum level week in, week out.

It takes very little time to put together and once done you just need to pick a really sunny spot in your garden to place it. In just 8 steps you will have a fully installed and working Green Cone… ready to turn all kinds of food and household waste into nutrient rich water.

This guide also contains FAQ’s and contact details for Great Green Systems to ensure you have everything you will need moving forward.

Once again thanks for choosing the Green Cone…
It takes just four simple steps to assemble the Green Cone and all you’ll need to hand is a Crosshead & Flathead screwdriver. Everything is included within the pack and it should take no more than 15 minutes to assemble.

**HARDWARE KIT:** Lid, green outer cone, black inner cone, basket

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Studs</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hinge</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Screws (10x5/8)</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Backplate</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Screws (8x5/8)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twistlock</td>
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**TOOLS REQUIRED:** Crosshead screwdriver Flathead screwdriver

**LET’S BEGIN:**

**STEP 1.**
You will need to locate the 2 studs, hinge plate and Cone lid. Then put the ribbed side of the plate on the inside of the lid and fasten into place via the pre-drilled holes.

**STEP 2.**
After gathering the 2(8x5/8) screws and twistlock, attach it to the main body of the Cone through the marked holes.

**STEP 3.**
Now take the lid, backplate and 3(10x5/8) self-tapping screws and use them to attach the top of the unit to the main Cone body. No pre-drilled holes are required for this step, just remember to screw from the outside, in.

**STEP 4.**
You are now ready to connect the 3 main components of the Green Cone: Green Outer Cone, Black Inner Cone & Basket. Initially place the Green Outer Cone over the Black Inner Cone, lining up the screw holes with the notches on the inner cone. Now sit both these sections on the basket and use the remaining 6(10x5/8) self-tapping screws to fasten securely into place.

**The most common questions we are asked by Green Cone users**

**Q.** IS THERE A LIMIT TO THE AMOUNT OF FOOD WASTE I CAN PUT IN THE GREEN CONE?

**A.** You can dispose of up to one kilogram of waste per day in a well-positioned and fully working Green Cone. As long as the unit has a healthy population of bacteria and a consistent ambient temperature it can dispose of the food waste created by the average family of four per day!

**Q.** AS WELL AS FOOD WASTE, CAN I PUT GARDEN WASTE IN THE UNIT TOO?

**A.** No, grass cuttings and garden waste will stop the cone from working properly. For garden waste you should consider the GGS Green Johanna composter.

**Q.** CAN I PUT MY PET’S EXCREMENT IN THE GREEN CONE?

**A.** Yes you can but please do it in moderation, ensuring you clean the cone regularly throughout the year if this is the case.

**Q.** DO I NEED TO MIX OR STIR THE CONTENTS?

**A.** No not at all, it is designed to breakdown waste naturally without assistance.

**Q.** WILL MY GREEN CONE WORK EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR?

**A.** Yes it will, although it may slow down a little on darker, colder days. But a little Accelerator powder will keep it working as usual no matter what the weather.

**Q.** DOES THE CONE NEED ANY CHEMICAL ACTIVATORS?

**A.** No! Any artificial additives will affect the way the cone’s natural bacteria works to break down the food waste.

**Q.** WILL MY GREEN CONE EVER NEED TO BE EMPTIED?

**A.** With a well working and well-maintained cone you may need to empty and clean it once every few years. Just keep an eye out for residue building up around the base as this may be an indication that a clean may be required.

**Q.** HOW DO I CLEAN THE KITCHEN CADDY?

**A.** Simply hand wash it in warm soapy water. Do not put in the dishwasher.

**Q.** WHAT IS THE BAR FOR ACROSS THE TOP OF THE GREEN CONE?

**A.** This bar provides solidity in transit and prevents small children from falling in to the unit when in use. You can also turn the latch to secure the lid, so the rod can be removed if you prefer.

**Q.** WILL THE GREEN CONE ATTRACT FLIES AND VERMIN?

**A.** When properly installed, with the green outer lip below ground level and the lid shut securely, the Green Cone emits no smell whatsoever. This means there is no obvious attraction for flies and vermin to be drawn to. It is also important that the Kitchen Caddy is well covered at all times. If flies lay eggs at this stage you will transfer the larvae to the cone (in turn putting flies in the system). If this does happen a small squirt of organic fly spray will clear up the issue without hindering the eco system in the unit.
DURING MARCH TO SEPTEMBER:
You can empty one full caddy into the Green Cone every 1-2 days.

DURING OCTOBER TO FEBRUARY:
You can empty one full caddy into the Green Cone every 2-3 days.

STAGE TWO. The installation of your Green Cone

There are two key factors to remember when locating and installing the Green Cone, it needs a bright sunny spot that drains well. Both factors ensure a consistently high volume of food waste digestion for the natural absorption of its water residue into your garden.

If you have a naturally damp garden you can create additional drainage by placing gravel, stones and broken pots underneath the installed unit.

STEP 1.
Initially just take a little time to have a real look around your garden, you want to meet the installation criteria of sunshine and drainage - but you also want to put the cone in a convenient spot for filling with household waste. It should be easy to get to in the colder, darker months when you may not want to venture out as often. And it should be a hardly noticed addition to the garden when blooming during spring & summer.

STEP 2.
With your perfect spot chosen it’s time to dig the foundation hole for the unit.

Option one - Good drainage: Dig 70cm (28”) wide and 54cm (22”) deep
Option two - Poor drainage: Dig 90cm (36”) wide and 70cm (28”) deep

If you are still unsure on the drainage of your garden, simply dig the shallower of the two holes and empty in a bucket of water. If it drains in a few minutes move onto step three, if it takes longer than 15 minutes dig to the deeper level.

STEP 3.
Before placing the Green Cone in the hole, mix some of the dug out soil with a little compost and gravel. This will be used to pack in the unit and to aid with filtration of the nutrient rich water into the surrounding ground.

STEP 4.
First of all put some of the mix back into the hole then lower in the cone, you want the basket to sit 3cm (1”) below ground level. With the unit in place - ensuring the bottom lip of the outer cone is below ground level – back fill the remaining gaps with the rest of your soil, compost and gravel mix.

Please note: After heavy rain, the soil level may drop around the unit, check every few weeks and top up with soil should you need to, always ensuring the green lip is under the ground. It is also worth noting that the base of the basket should never fall below the water table.

YES!
Fish, red meat & poultry, all bones, bread, fruit & peelings, vegetables & peelings, dairy produce, cooked scraps, crushed eggshells, teabags and animal excrement.

NO!
Metal, wood, plastic, glass, paper, straw, grass cuttings, hedge clippings, bulk oil, disinfectant & bleaches, sanitary towels, medical waste and all chemicals.

KEEPING THE GREEN CONE RUNNING SMOOTHLY
The Green Cone is a very low maintenance digester and just requires the odd look over. This mainly involves keeping the ground level around the cone above the green lip of the unit and checking that the waste inside is composing well during colder and darker months. If you find that the digestion has started to slow down throughout autumn and winter then this is the time to use some of the accelerator provided.

USING THE ACCELERATOR POWDER WITH YOUR GREEN CONE
The Accelerator powder provided with the unit is a simple mix of natural bacteria on a cereal base. It has been specifically created to help maintain a healthy population of safe bacteria during colder and darker months.

During these more dormant periods for the weather, shake a small amount of the powder into your Kitchen Caddy along with your normal food waste. Then simply dispose of the contents into the Green Cone as normal. We also recommend that you use the powder for the first week after installation to maximise the growth of the healthy bacteria from day one.

WHAT CAN YOU PUT IN THE KITCHEN CADDY & GREEN CONE?
Your Green Cone is now ready to use…

With your Green Cone built and installed, you are now ready to get cracking turning your food and household waste into the nutrient rich water that your garden plants and vegetables will benefit from daily.

**LET THE KITCHEN CADDY BE YOUR DAILY GUIDE TO FOOD WASTE DIGESTION**

Not only does the Kitchen Caddy provide a convenient place to store your waste and a simple way to transport from your kitchen to the Green Cone. It is also a measure of how and when to add waste to the digester.

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### How the Green Cone works

**SUNLIGHT**
Provides energy source for the digestion process.

**REMOVEABLE LID**
For easy access to the digestion chamber.

**DOUBLE-WALLED SOLAR CONE**
Creates a heat trap of circulating air to encourage bacteria growth.

**SOIL**
Filters out smells and prevents access by flies.

**DIGESTION CHAMBER**
Aerobic conditions to reduce methane production.

**NATURAL MICRO-ORGANISMS AND WORMS**
Migrate freely in and out of the basket and break down the waste.

**NUTRIENT RICH WATER**
Enteres surrounding ground.

Over 90% of the waste material in your Green Cone will be absorbed as water by the soil. Never over fill the green cone, there should only ever be food waste in the digestion chamber, no food waste should be in the solar cone.
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