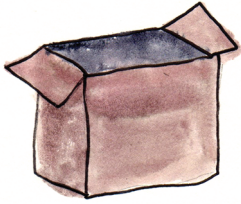
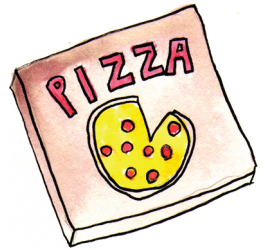


MINNPOST COMPOST GUIDE



Cardboard boxes

Yes, cardboard boxes are compostable **but** the fibers in them are still ripe for reuse. Recycle



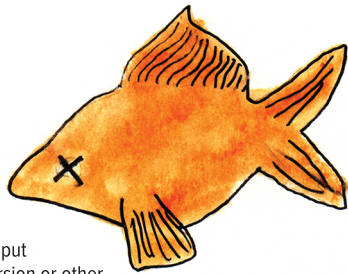
Pizza boxes

Yes, as long as they're regular cardboard boxes and not coated with plastic. **While most compost should be in a bag, these can go right in the bin.**



Coffee cups and takeout container

It depends. Some takeout cups and containers are biodegradable. Some are not. Compost if there's a BPI logo (for the Biodegradable Products Institute, a nonprofit that certifies items). Don't compost if not.



A dead goldfish

Yes. Dead animals are a gray area. Don't put deer parts from your recent hunting excursion or other larger mammals in your compost bin — they're stinky. But a dead goldfish is small, and isn't all that different from the scrap parts of a fish you eat for dinner. Don't compost anything bigger than a goldfish.

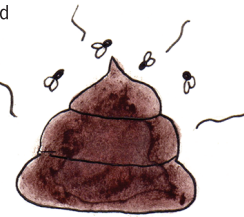


Yard waste

No. This stuff is as biodegradable as it comes. Ultimately, it is composted, but it helps composters get the right ratio of stuff in the compost pile if it's separate. It also costs less to process as yard waste. Put it in a yard waste bag and have it picked up that way.

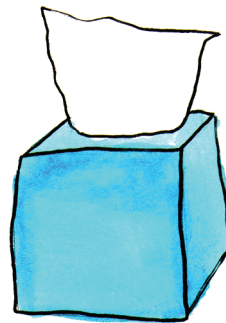
Pet waste

No. The compost facility isn't permitted to process it. And although compost is heated to kill pathogens, pet waste increases the risk of disease.



Clothes

Yes, if the clothes are 100% cotton or wool, you're good just cut it into 2" by 2" sections to help the process. **But**, if the clothing is still in good condition, donate it. If it's not, consider clothing recycling: Many places that accept clothing donations also accept clothes for recycling.

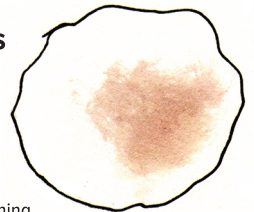


Kleenexes

Yes.

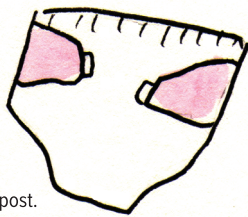
Dirty cotton balls

No. If you're using them for removing makeup or nail polish or the like, those items contain chemicals that shouldn't go into compost. If they're clean or covered in something organic, like vinegar, compost away.

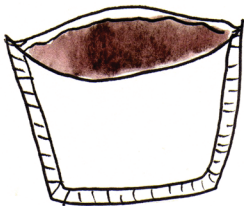


Diapers and baby wipes

No. For two reasons: One, most are not made of compostable materials. Two: no wastes — human or animal — are allowed in compost.



Text and illustrations by Greta Kaul



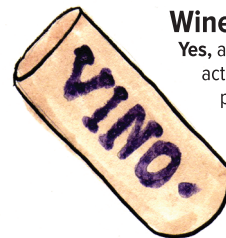
Coffee grounds

Yep. Filters, too.



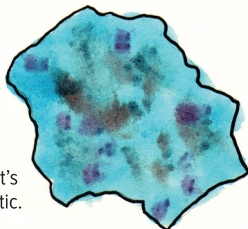
Egg cartons

Yes. The fibers in these have broken down too much to be recyclable. Compost them. (Like pizza boxes, egg cartons don't need to be bagged.)



Wine corks

Yes, as long as they're actual cork and not that plasticky stuff.

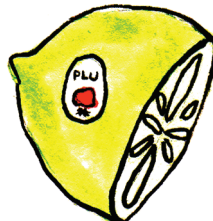


Dryer lint

No. Since your clothes likely aren't 100% cotton or wool, it's likely some of this lint is plastic.

Fruit stickers

No. They're likely not tested to make sure they biodegrade. Take them off the fruit before composting.



Paper towels

Yes. They're paper, but can't be recycled in the recycling bin, so compost is a good choice. Unless, that is, there's chemicals from cleaning products (even ones that say natural) on them.

