

# Operation Manual

## 160 ℓ Tumbling Composter

51477

# toboli



Illustration similar, may vary depending on model

Read and follow the operating instructions and safety information before using for the first time.

Technical changes reserved!

Due to further developments, illustrations, functioning steps, and technical data can differ insignificantly.

Updating the documentation

If you have suggestions for improvement or have found any irregularities, please contact us.



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## Introduction

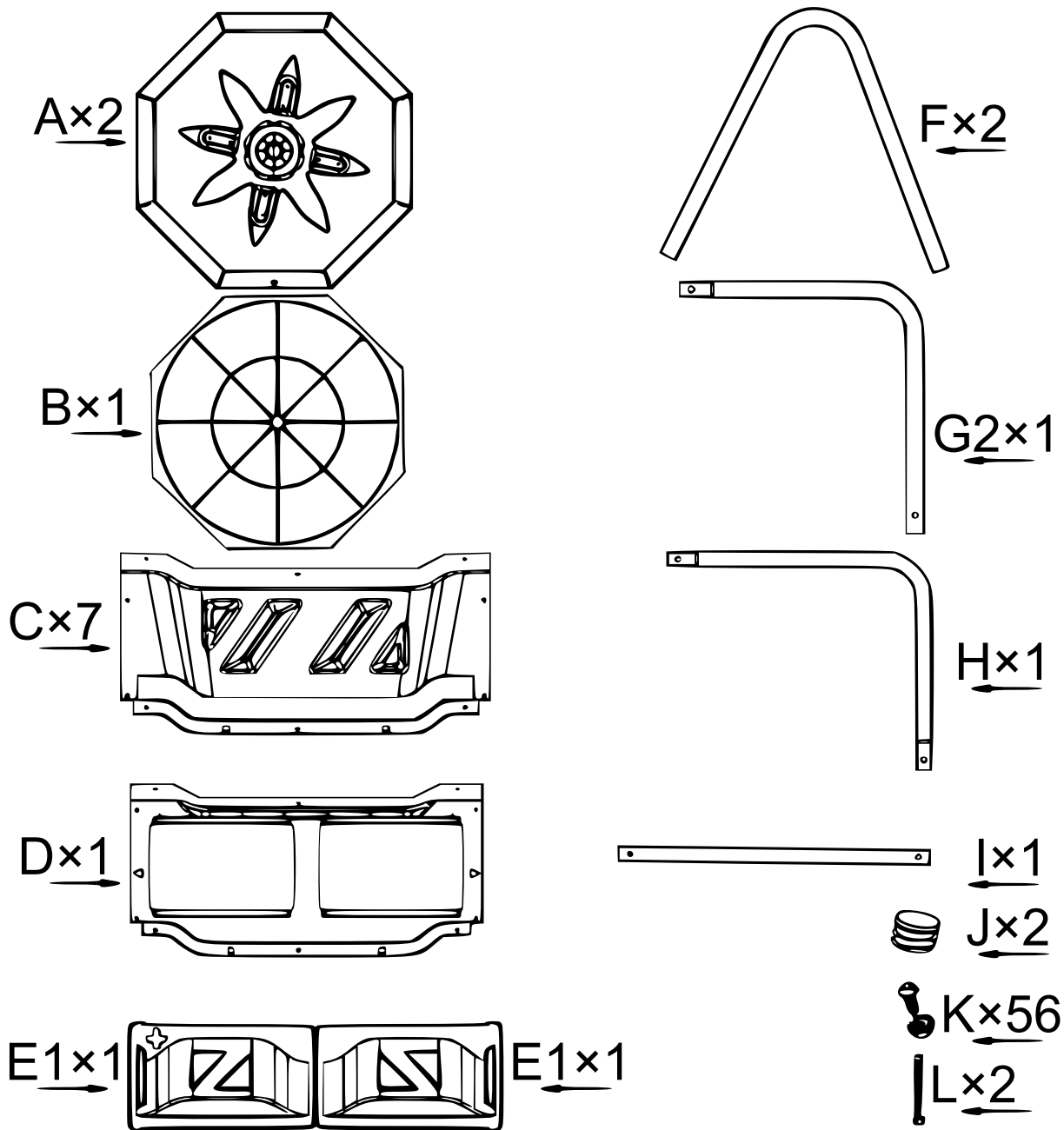
Thank you for purchasing this quality product. **To minimise the risk of injury we urge that our clients take some basic safety precautions when using this device. Please read the operation instructions carefully and make sure you have understood its content.**

Keep these operation instructions safe.

## Cautions and warnings

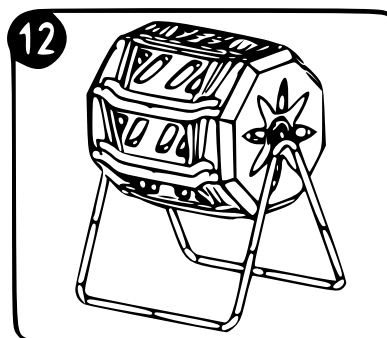
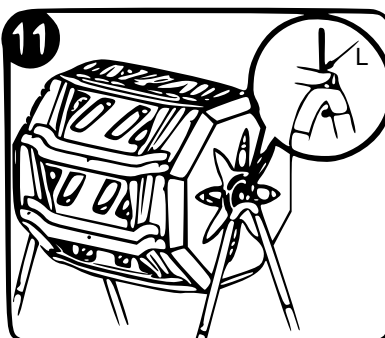
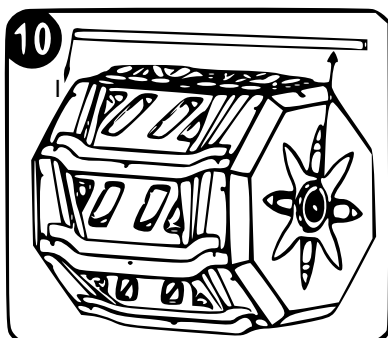
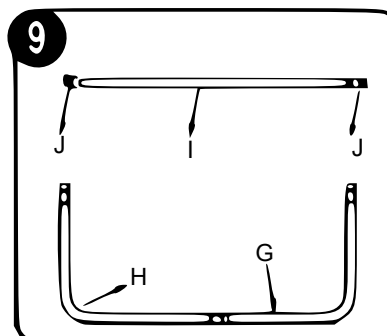
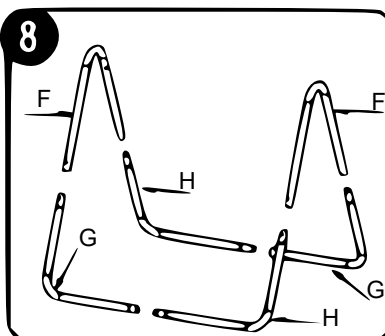
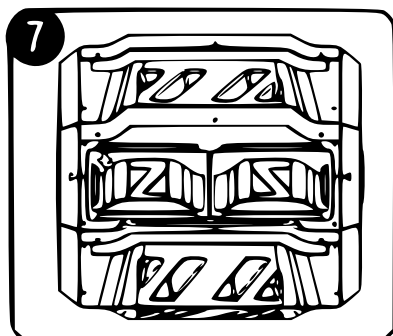
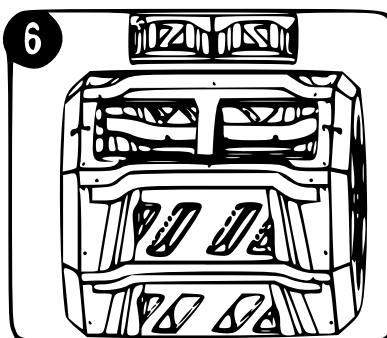
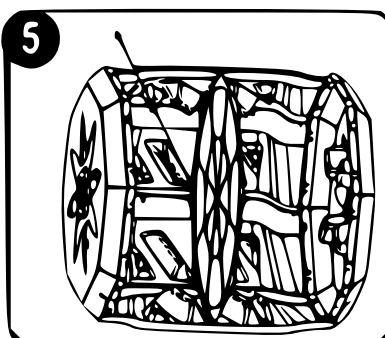
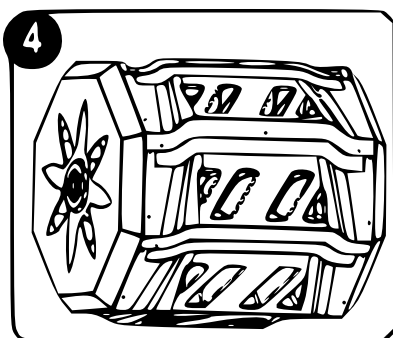
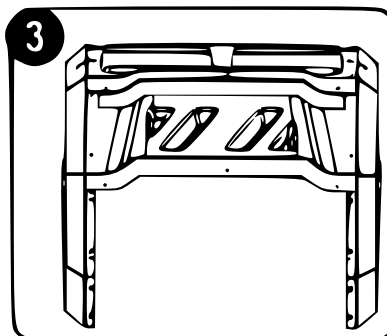
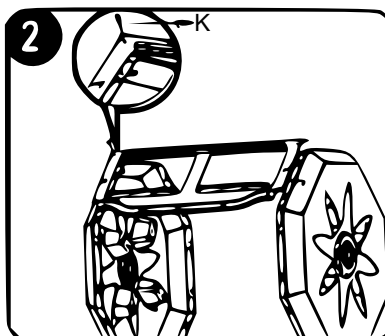
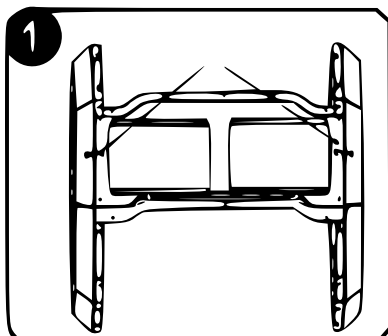
- Failure to follow these warnings may result in serious injuries or property damages.
- Assemble the device on a level surface.
- Remove the compost tumbler door when emptying the compost.
- Those who participate in the assembly should wear safety glasses throughout the entire assembly.
- Keep children away from the compost tumbler.
- Keep hands and loose clothing away when rotating the tumbler.
- Remove the drum from the frame before relocating the unit.
- Be aware that plastic panels can be damaged by over-tightening the connections.
- Do not overload the compost tumbler; the maximum load is 2 × 40 lbs.
- Do not rotate the compost tumbler when the material inside is frozen.
- Do not climb in, on, or around the composter.
- Do not use or store hot objects near the device.
- Most injuries are caused by misuse and/or not following the instructions.
- Be careful when using sharp objects to remove the compost to avoid damaging your tumbler.

Parts list



**Attention:** Parts D and E are together in the box.

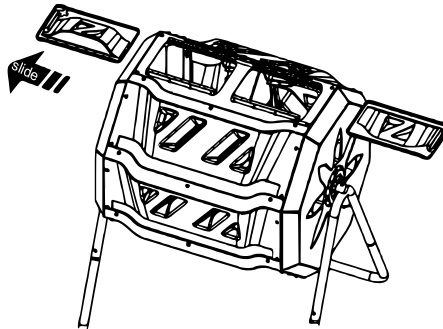
Composter assembly



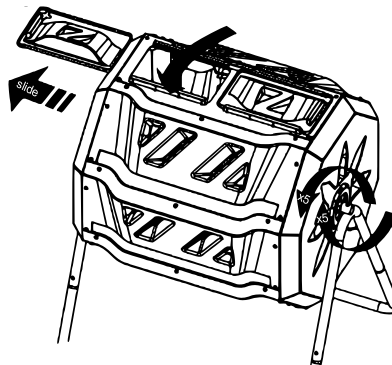
- Concerning 1.: The middle part with the triangle marks (see arrows) must be installed first.
- Concerning 5.: Install clasp after the 4<sup>th</sup> panel has been added.
- Concerning 8.: Then assemble the stand frame.

## Composting

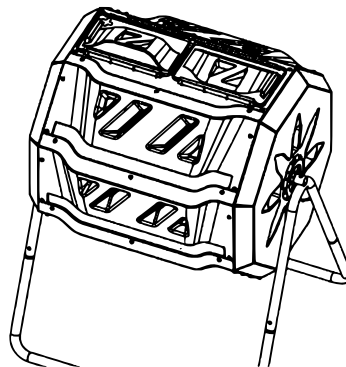
- The composter has 2 chambers which can be opened separately by sliding the covers.



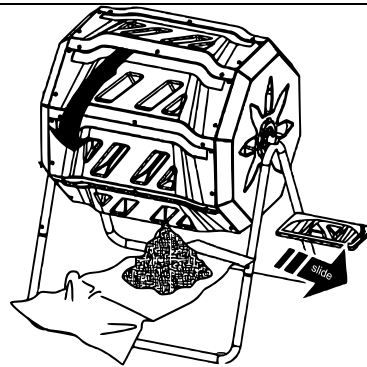
- Add new raw material to chamber 1, turn 5–10 times every two or three days (turn into each direction). **NOTE:** The door with the “+” mark is for adding new material.



- When chamber 1 is full, let it cook and start adding new raw material to chamber 2.



- To empty the composted chamber:
  1. place a small plastic sheet or garden sheet beneath the composter;
  2. rotate the composter so that the doors are at the bottom;
  3. slide the door with the finished compost;
  4. the finished compost will fall out.
  5. Slide the sheet out or move the garden cart.



**!** **Note!** Opening the door between the stand will lock the rotation. Gently tap the sides to loosen compost. Close the door and rotate the device to an upright position.

**Clean and care**

- After emptying the finished compost from a chamber, rinse the inside thoroughly with a garden hose. Abrasive cleaning materials may scratch the plastic and are not recommended.
- The plastic panels can be washed easily. Most stains can be removed by using a mild soap and a soft brush.
- At the beginning of each season, be sure to check all plastic parts and the frame for tightness.

**How to use your tumbler**

*Select a location*

- Select a location with access to your source material, in an area with moderate sunlight. Place your composter in the garden or backyard where you can conveniently recycle your kitchen waste or lawn cuttings.
- You do not need to completely dry out the compost material; the extra heat from the sunlight helps the decomposition process. With enough space you can easily rotate the composter.

**!** **Attention:** During hot summer months, please move an empty composter to where it is shaded from the afternoon sun.

- Fill the composter with the recommended materials as they become available. The best compost is made from a blend of materials.
- Keeping the right ratio of carbon and nitrogen is an essential factor in successful composting. A mix of ¾ browns (carbon) and ¼ greens (nitrogen) by volume is ideal; see chart.

| Carbon (browns)              | Nitrogen (greens)              |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Leaves, branches, pine cones | Fresh grass clippings          |
| Untreated wood               | Freshly cut leaves             |
| Shredded Newspaper           | Fruit scraps, vegetable scraps |
| Straw or hay                 | Kitchen scraps                 |
| Saw dust                     | Garden plants                  |
| Dryer lint                   | Chicken, rabbit manure         |

| <b>!</b> Do NOT add!    |
|-------------------------|
| Meat, fat, bones        |
| Pet droppings           |
| Treated wood            |
| Dairy products          |
| Weeds, diseased plants  |
| Poisonous sumac and ivy |



### Advantages

- Compost improves the ability of the soil to retain moisture, which reduces material costs;
- provides needed nutrients and humus for healthy plants;
- makes a fine mulch for fruits plants;
- is perfect for lawns to help soil organisms thrive;
- makes an excellent potting soil for houseplants and potted plants;
- makes compost from tea.

### Checking the process

- Composting is the process of breaking down organic material for use as an excellent soil amendment. Beneficial bacteria do their part to return this waste into a form usable by plants. These microbes need air, water, food, and heat to thrive. Keeping these microbes “happy” will speed up the process.
- The microbes do need both carbon and nitrogen. The recommended carbon to nitrogen ratio is around 30:1. Explanations to solve possible problems concerning this ratio are explained in the following table (composting tips).
- The compost temperature is a good indicator of the activity of the microbes. Consuming the food, they give off heat. Active compost temperatures range from 26 °C to 65 °C. If it feels comfortably warm, the microbes are active. Temperature makes the microbes move faster. The faster they work, the sooner the compost is completed.
- After two or three days, check your compost pile to see if it is in a good moisture. A moisture content of between 50–60 % is desirable in an active compost pile, but there is a way to help you to check the moisture level. Here is a simple way to judge the moisture content in your compost:
- Take out a handful of compost from the centre of your pile and squeeze it in your hand:
  - If you can squeeze water out of it, the compost is too wet.
  - If the compost does not release water but crumbles apart when released, it is too dry. Add a little water (not too much), and turn the composter 5–10 times every 2–3 days to mix well.
  - If the compost does not release water but stays compacted, the moisture is just right.
- Turning regularly on a weekly base will loosen up the compost and create air passages. Too much air exposure can quickly dry out the compost and thus bring the decomposition to a stop. If the composter is mostly filled with grass, it may need to be rotated more frequently to keep the grass from matting together.
- The compost is done when it becomes dark brown and has an earthy smell. It can be added directly to ornamental plants as mulch or worked into the soil.
- It is recommended to dump the finished compost on the ground and then shovel it into a garden cart to prevent damage to the inside of the composter. This is done by sliding the door of the chamber that you want to empty to make the compost fall down. Make sure the other chamber under composting is closed.

### Composting tips

These are some key components for a great compost:

- proper nitrogen/carbon ratio,
- constant and proper moisture,
- constant and good aeration,
- regular rotating.





### Activate your compost and solve problems

Activators can be added to your compost to help speeding up the decomposition. It includes fallen leaves, grass clippings, fresh weeds, and well-rotten chicken manure. But sometimes things go wrong even with composting. Most composting problems occur from a lack of moisture, too much moisture or an imbalance of nitrogen/carbon ratio. Please refer to the following table.

| Problem                    | Reason                                    | Solution  |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| Bad odour (ammonia smell)  | Too much nitrogen                         | Add carbon: dry leaves, straw; turn regularly.  |
| Bad odour (putrid smell)   | Improper food scraps, e.g., meat.         | Remove improper material.   |
| Vermins/insects            | Too dry, not mixed well                   | Make sure that the material is mixed completely.  |
|                            | Attracted to meat food                    | Remove the meat food.   |
| Pile does not break down   | Pile is too dry.                          | Add water, not too much, then turn.   |
|                            | Pile is moist, but material is dense.     | Keep pile in good aeration by rotating per week.  |
| Material stops decomposing | Material is moist and dense, but not wet. |   |
| Pile saturated with water  | Material is wet, smelly, matted.          | Turn pile, add dry brown to keep it in good aeration routinely.                               |
| Leaves do not break down.  | Material is dry.                          | Add greens like lawn clippings; water the pile, rotating and soaking to make proper moisture. |
| Compost caught fire.       | Ratio imbalance: excessive nitrogen       | Moist pile, and mix in more browns to keep balance, rotate routinely.                         |
| Sticks do not break down.  | Incorrect operation                       | Remove large wood chunks.   |

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