## #GOCompostable with your paper cups



Think twice about buying 'recyclable' paper cups and consider using compostable cups instead.

We re-use our cups as pots to grow plants in:

- 1. poke holes through the base
  - 2. fill with compost
    - 3. sow seeds such as

lettuce



## Look for the logos

Compostable cups will have a logo which looks similar to this. The cups are made from plant based materials. All will decompose in large scale composting and some will compost at home taking around 18 months in a cool composting process.





At Garden Organic we're promoting the use of compostable cups to go part way in addressing the issue of 10,000 coffee cups being disposed of every two minutes.

While reusable cups are sometimes used instead and coffee chains like Costa and Starbucks invite customers to recycle any coffee cup, the sad truth is that most end up in general waste or, even worse, in recycling bins.

## CARD contaminates PLASTIC recycling PLASTIC contaminates CARD recycling

It's not just cups that are going compostable. So too are plates, bowls, cutlery and carrier bags. Yet there is still confusion about the different types of compostable material and how they can be disposed. The only way to be sure is to know the compostable packaging certification labels below.



Tested to break down when composted at 58°C for 12 weeks (i.e. in an industrial composting facility). Check if your local authority accepts compostable packaging in its food waste collection.

Developed as most home compost heaps do not reach industrial temperatures. The tests are conducted at 20–30°C and over a longer period of 26 weeks.





Treat compostable materials as a 'brown' compost ingredient. Mix with plenty of 'greens' and make sure not to stack them. Realistically it may take 18 months for cups, bowls etc to fully degrade in a home compost bin.

Find out more: www.gardenorganic.org.uk

