



Best Compost Bins For Allotments UK 2026

Composited off the Internet

By Gareth Richards

Best Compost Bin for Allotments

Composting is free plant food, and every plot ought to have at least one bin on the go. Here's what works for UK growers, from the £10 council dalek to a hot composter that'll have you digging in compost by autumn.

The short version: the best compost bin for a UK allotment is the Blackwall 330L Compost Converter (4.3★ from 360+ Amazon ratings) — a sealed dalek that's rat-resistant, big enough for a full plot, and often available subsidised through your council via getcomposting.com for £10–£20. If you want compost in months rather than a year, step up to an insulated hot bin. It's worth the habit either way: waste charity WRAP estimates around 30% of what goes in the average household bin could have been composted instead.

Our Top Picks

Product	Type	Rating	Best For	Compare
Blackwall 330L Compost Converter	Plastic dalek · static	4.3★ (361)	Best Overall	Compare
Outsunny 160L Tumbling Compost Bin	Dual-chamber tumbler	4.5★ (440)	Best Tumbler	Compare
Aerobin 200L Insulated Compost Bin Set	Insulated hot composter	No ratings yet	Fastest Compost	Compare

Product	Type	Rating	Best For	Compare
Selections Wooden Beehive Composter	Wooden · slatted	4.3★ (16)	Best Wooden	Compare

1

Blackwall 330L Compost Converter

4.3★ on Amazon · 361 ratings

The classic dalek. You've seen one on every site you've ever visited, and there's a reason for that. Grab it through your council via getcomposting.com and you can often pay as little as £10. It just sits there, swallows the year's trimmings, and gives you crumbly black gold at the bottom. Nothing to assemble, nothing to fiddle with, and at 330L there's room for a full plot's worth of weeds and peelings.

Often available subsidised through councils

330L suits a full plot

No assembly needed

Durable recycled plastic

2

Outsunny 160L Tumbling Compost Bin

4.4★ on Amazon · 427 ratings

The big selling point is the spin. No more bending double to fork compost out of the bottom of a bin. Two chambers mean you fill one side while the other gets on with cooking, so there's always a batch breaking down. It's quicker than a static bin, though you do have to remember to give it a turn every few days, and a full drum takes a bit of shoulder. The sealed barrel keeps the rats out, which is no small thing. With over 400 reviews behind it, it's the proven pick of the tumblers.

Dual chambers, continuous composting
Easy turning, no back-breaking forking out
Rodent-proof sealed drum
Best-reviewed tumbler here at 4.4★

3

Aerobin 200L Insulated Compost Bin Set

No ratings on this listing yet

If you're impatient, this is the one. The insulated walls let the heap run hot, so waste turns into compost in a few months rather than the year-plus a dalek wants, and it keeps working through a UK winter when an open bin would stall. The internal aeration core means you're not constantly turning it by hand, and there's a tap at the bottom for the liquid that drains off. It was £199.95 when we checked on 25 July 2026, which is a lot of money next to a dalek, and the listing is new enough to have no reviews yet, so go in knowing that.

Insulated — far faster than a static bin

Keeps composting through winter

Aeration core, minimal turning

Sealed against vermin

4

Selections Wooden Beehive Composter

4.2★ on Amazon · 15 ratings

If the look of a plot matters to you, timber wins over plastic every time. This beehive-style composter sits in nicely among the beds, and the slatted sides let air through so the heap doesn't go sour and slimy. It arrives flat-packed and you'll have it together in about twenty minutes. The lift-off lid and removable front slats make turning and emptying easy.

Looks great on the plot

Good airflow from slatted sides

Removable slats for easy access

Flat-packed, quick to assemble

Frequently Asked Questions

What type of compost bin is best for an allotment?

For most people, start with a dalek. It's cheap, often subsidised through the council, asks nothing of you, and it's the right size for one plot. The only reason to spend more is speed: an insulated hot bin will give you compost in a few months where the dalek takes a year.

Do allotment compost bins attract rats?

A sealed dalek or a tumbler drum keeps them out. The trouble starts with open wooden bins when people add cooked food, meat or fish, which is basically ringing the dinner bell. Keep it to raw veg peelings, cardboard and garden trimmings and rats lose interest.

How many compost bins do I need on an allotment?

Two is the sweet spot: one filling up while the other quietly breaks down. You can get by with a single bin, plenty of people do, you'll just be waiting longer each time before there's anything ready to use.

Can I get a free compost bin for my allotment?

Free is rare, but cheap is common. Loads of UK councils sell subsidised bins through getcomposting.com for £10-£20, which is hard to beat. Check your council's website, or just ask at the site office, the secretary usually knows the current deal.

How We Choose

We stick to kit that lasts, doesn't cost silly money, and is easy to actually get hold of in the UK. Established brands with a proper warranty get the nod over no-name bargains that fall apart in a season. Prices correct as of June 2026.

How to Contact the Editor

If you have comments or you know I have given wrong advice then please contact me by email at

gareth.richards@yeovil-allotments-association.co.uk

If you have something to contribute or have a say on allotment life, then please use my email to send your contributions.

I am going to process the magazine issue once a month, so if there are comments you would like to make they can be answered in future editions.

I would like to add that most of the articles are taken off the web and some well known gardening and allotments magazines have been read in the making of our magazine content.

We also have our own website at :

www.yeovil-allotments-association.co.uk

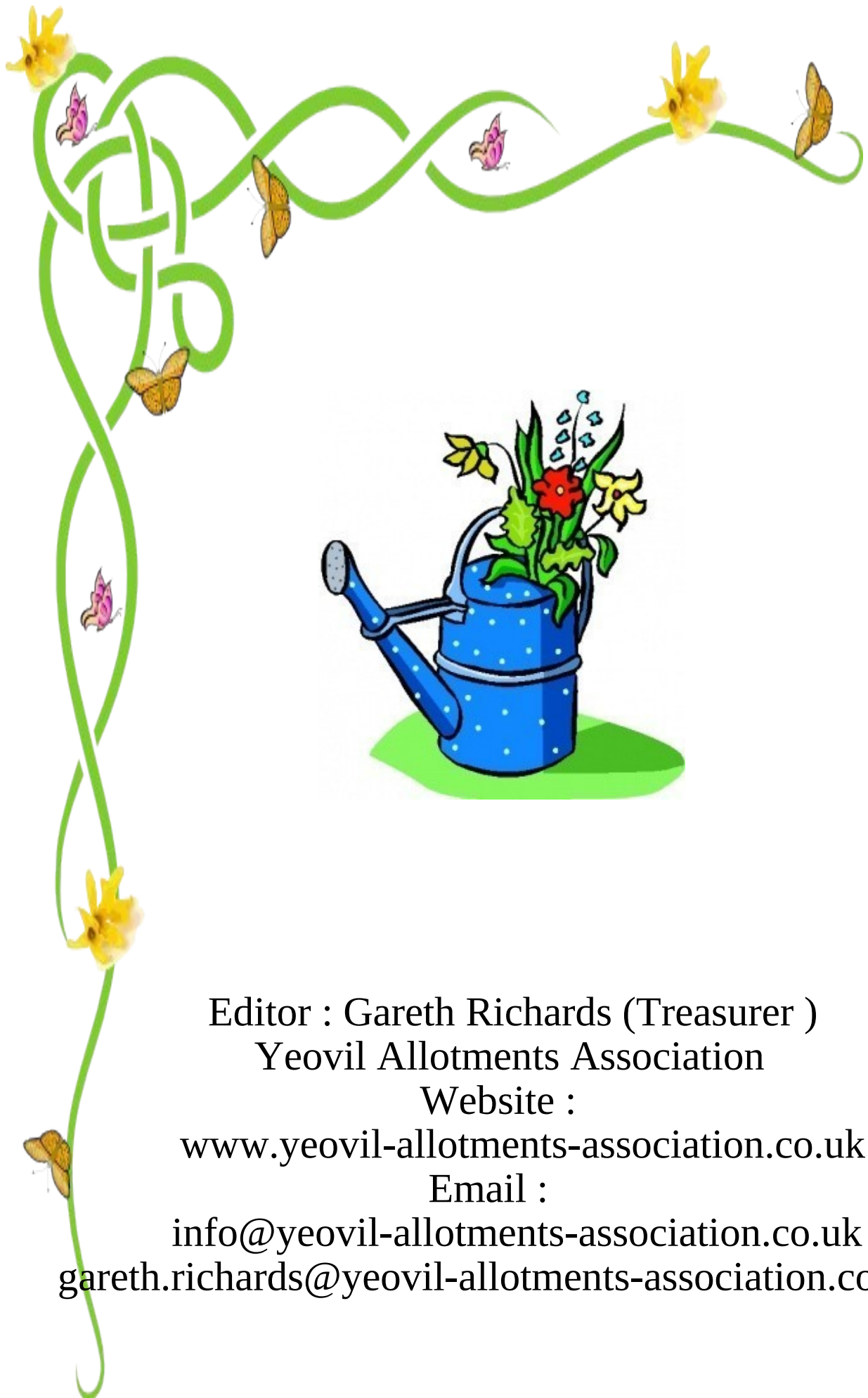
where you can find this magazine as well as a catalogue

Happy Allotmenting and best wishes,

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