

# Waste compactor

## What is it?

Waste compactor reduces the size of your rubbish by squashing it. With the compaction, more waste can be stored in the bin. Compactors can be handled manually or powered by electricity. A manual compactor can reduce waste volume by up to 30%. An electricity mechanical compactor can reduce waste volume by up to 80%.

## How would it work?

Manual compactors can be purchased and added into the existing general and recycling wheelie bins. They often use a "wheelie mate", which can be attached to the hinges of the bin. By pulling a lever, a central plate in the bin compresses the rubbish.

Mechanical compactors (i.e. powered by electricity) often come with the bin, which means new bins with compactor will need to be purchased. The compactor bin can be used for home or in the estate, depending on the size. Some home bins come with smart electricity control and odour reduction systems.

Training is needed to use a mechanical compactor. Due to the need of electricity, the compactor needs to be placed in a safe and secured area.

## What are the costs and benefits?

A manual compactor to fit existing wheelie bin can cost about £25<sup>1</sup>.

Costs for mechanical compactors vary. A 48L home use compactor bin cost about £200<sup>2</sup>.

Using a waste compactor at home means you do not have to take out the garbage as often nor does it take up as much space.

Waste compactors can help maintain a good level of hygiene around your bin to reduce bad smells and prevent problems with attracting vermin.



### Waste reduction

Using a waste compactor at the estate means you can reduce the number of bins in the estate and reduce the number of trips for waste collection, resulting in the environmental impact of waste transportation.

However, waste compactor does not reduce the amount of waste sent for disposal. You can reduce the amount of rubbish you throw away by cutting down on packaging, composting food waste, re-using, sharing and other measures.



Source::

1. <http://www.gardenfurnitureworld.com/>
2. <http://www.johnlewis.com/>