

# Avoiding FoGo<sup>o</sup> odour and mess

It's normal for foods to start to smell and liners to break when left in your kitchen caddy or FOGO bin. Follow these tips to avoid odours and mess.

## To reduce odour in your kitchen caddy and avoid mess inside you can:

- 1 Use a liner.** Kitchen caddy liners will help reduce odour from food waste. See the Kitchen Caddy factsheet for information about liners at [COUNCIL WEBSITE](#)
- 2 Empty it regularly.** Compostable liners breakdown quickly, especially with moisture. Empty your caddy into your FOGO bin every few days even if it is not full. Clean and dry the caddy before inserting a new liner.
- 3 Soak up the drips.** Place a piece of newspaper or kitchen towel in the bottom of the caddy.
- 4 Keep it cool.** Store the kitchen caddy out of direct sunlight in a cool spot. Prevent odour by wrapping smelly food waste like meat and seafood scraps in paper and freezing them until bin night.
- 5 Avoid drips and spills.** To avoid drips and spills inside, carry your kitchen caddy outside to your FOGO bin before you pull the liner out.
- 6 Keep it clean.** Wash and dry your kitchen caddy each time you empty it.



## To reduce odour in your FOGO bin you can:

- 1 Add dry materials.** Placing a layer of dry material in the bottom of the FOGO bin will help prevent food scraps from sticking to the bin. Add layers of dry materials like shredded paper, dry leaves or grass in between layers of food scraps to reduce odour.
- 2 Empty and wash regularly.** Put your FOGO bin out for each collection even if it is not full. Give it an occasional hose out to clear away anything stuck to the inside and leave it open to dry in the sun.
- 3 Store in the shade.** If you can, store your FOGO bin in a shady spot.
- 4 Keep it closed.** Odours are less likely to be noticed if the bin lid is firmly closed. Avoid overfilling the bin to prevent odours escaping and wildlife from getting into the bin. In windy locations, a bin lid latch may be useful. Internet search 'bin lid latch' to find a product that suits you.



If your kitchen caddy or wheelie bins have absorbed odours, you may find an enzyme based cleaner and deodoriser worth a try. Internet search for 'enzyme based cleaning products'.

### TOP TIP

For a list of what's accepted in your FOGO bin, see the FOGO A-Z Guide at [www.colacotway.vic.gov.au](http://www.colacotway.vic.gov.au)