

Review of peat-free composts

Many of these products are expensive if bought online in the small volumes used by amateur gardeners. We've listed those which are easiest to buy locally at the top (highlighted in green). Some peat-free composts are sold in large bags like those used by builders' merchants. The two products recommended by Which? magazine are highlighted in yellow.

Note that Courtyard Planters in Otley sell only peat-free compost and all of their plants are grown in peat-free media.

Product Name	Manufacturer	Where manufactured	Main ingredients	How many products in range	Recyclable packaging	Manufacturer claims	Price per volume	Local stockists	Online stockists
New Horizon all plant compost*	Westland	UK (Northern Ireland)	Coir, biofibre and something else (very mysterious!)	Three	Unknown	100% natural and sustainable, specially created to be the perfect compost, BIO3 is a revolutionary new compost formulation engineered to out-perform all peat-based blends.	£6.29 for 60 L from Stephen Smiths, £6.00 for 40 L from RHS Harlow Carr (but 4 for 3 offer at present)	Stephen Smiths, Homebase, Wickes	Amazon
Peat free compost	Yorganics	UK (Yorkshire)	Recycled garden waste	One	Unknown	Locally sourced and produced	£4.00 for 40 L	Booth's Ilkley, Twin Locks garden centre, Gargrave, B & TS, Otley and Ilkley	stones4homes.co.uk
SylvaGrow	Melcourt	UK (but some bark and all coir imported)	Fine bark (sustainable source), wood fibre (sustainable source), coir (single source)	Six	NO, but introducing maxibales (bags for life endorsed by RHS)	Unique blend, no garden waste, no animal derived components	£3.99 for 15 L from Waitrose online, £7.00 for 50 L at RHS Harlow Carr (4 for 3 offer on at present)	RHS Harlow Carr, Acorn Garden Supplies at Bingley	Amazon (expensive!)
No specific names	Fertile Fibre	UK (Herefordshire)	Coir based	Many	Unknown	Soil Association Approved, professional standard	£22.00 for 60 L (seed compost)	None identified	fertilefibre.com

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Happy Compost	The Greener Gardener (part of Bord Na Mona)	UK? (Parent company is Irish)	Bark, green waste, wood fibre, coir	Five	YES	Most eco friendly compost on the market; contains no animal derived components. 'Never again will Bord Na Mona open another peat bog!' 'Natural resources used wisely and never wasted'.	£5.81 per 50 L bag if 20 bought together	Rothwell Garden Centre	qualitygardensupplies.co.uk (bulk only)
Various e.g. Ericaceous Gold	Dalefoot Composts	UK	Potash-rich bracken, Herdwick sheeps' wool	Seven	Unknown	Made on a traditional hill farm in the Lake District, 100% sustainable	£26.95 for 2 x 40 L (Amazon)	Daleside Nurseries and Grassroots, both in Harrogate	Amazon, Garden4Less, eBay
Peat free multi purpose	Miracle Gro	USA	Coir is main ingredient	One	Unknown	'Rooted in science'. Fibre Smart technology. Smart release.	£7.28 for 10 L	B & Q	Amazon
Multi purpose organic	Country Smart	UK?	Compressed coir	One	Unknown	100% renewable and 'organic'	£11.99 for 70 L (comes as 9 L block – add water)	None identified	Amazon
Potting soil	Greenbrokers	UK (Hampshire)	Compressed coco fibre dust with added fertiliser	One	Unknown	'Organic'	£5.99 for 10 L (when expanded with water)	None identified	Amazon
Peat free multi purpose	Woodland Horticulture Ltd	UK (Somerset)	Coir plus composted bark fines, composted wood fibre	One	Unknown	All components from sustainable sources	£12.99 for 60 L (£6.99 delivery)	None identified	Amazon, yougarden.com
Pro-Grow	Veolia	UK	Garden waste plus fertiliser	Many	Unknown,	100% natural, 100% British, sustainable, fully renewable	£5 for 50 L but must buy in bulk (20 bags) as delivery charge is high	Jewson, Leeds	Pro-grow.com, primrose.co.uk

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Field peat free multipurpose potting compost	Field Compost Ltd	UK (Cambs)	Organic waste with added fertiliser	Many but mainly mulches	Unknown	None	Minimum order 5 x 40 L online	None identified	Amazon, fieldcompost.co.uk
New Leaf multipurpose compost	Natural World Products	UK (Northern Ireland)	Household waste from council waste collections	One	Unknown	From a sustainable resource, 100% organic	£16.99 for 40 L	N/A	newleafcompost.com