

## So you're considering compostable?

***Fantastic!*** At Rootree, we are passionate about sustainability and we are always so excited when a customer shares our passion.

Our compostable packaging is available with a variety of barrier properties to ensure that your products inside stay fresh but has the added benefit of having a ***low environmental impact*** – this starts right from the source by using renewable resources to create the materials and ends in your compost pile.

Now, we know that nature is pretty perfect, however there's a reason that conventional plastics have been in heavy use since the 50's – conventional materials can be processed over and over again until the appearance of the final product is flawless. But "flawless" isn't why our customers choose compostable; they make this choice because they want to do their part in pushing society towards a ***sustainable future***.

With that in mind, there are a few distinct features that you may notice about our compostable packaging and we want to put everything out on the table:

- Our ***compostable structure*** has a moderately stiffer feel than conventional materials, some have described it as "brittle", however we can assure you that our compostable packaging can withstand normal, controlled conditions (like the grocery store or your customer's pantry shelves). Our compostable packaging is also freezer- grade, however it should be kept away from dry ice to prevent premature degradation.
- If your packaging will have a window, ***clearly*** you want to showcase your product! We can definitely provide a window on your packaging, but due to the natural products used to create the films, it will not be like looking through a freshly cleaned windshield – you can expect a slightly diminished clarity.
- Mother Nature is great at a lot of things, but ***ironing isn't one of them***. The compostable films can sometimes have a covert wrinkly or wavy appearance. This usually becomes indiscernible after printing, and we think it adds character!

- Compostable materials can sometimes be a little ***rough around the edges***, which means that sometimes you might see some tiny burrs on the cut lines or tear notches which have not fully been detached. This is normal - because of its stiffness, the films can be more difficult to cut.
- Being a role model can be exhausting, and while our packaging tries to live up to today's beauty standards sometimes its natural aging will start to show. Over a period of time you might find that any unsealed edges begin to show a slight curl, but don't fret – ***it's what's on the inside that counts.***
- Your compostable packages will no doubt resemble a ***stunning*** piece of art, and we always handle them with the same type of care. Your pouches will be well-packed when they leave our facility, however we cannot be responsible for any defects resulting from improper handling processes. We recommend taking steps to ensure that others who are handling your products take good care of them.
- We believe that every product benefits from ***a gentle, personal touch.*** Our compostable packaging is no different, therefore we do not recommend this format for Amazon-style automated fulfilment facilities as we cannot guarantee that it will withstand this type of handling.
- We always recommend that our customers request some samples to ***show off*** to their friends and test their product(s) in, as the materials can sometimes react with ingredients found in certain products. As a result, the packaging may begin to degrade prematurely. Rootree cannot be held responsible for any such conflicts. Under ideal conditions, our compostable packaging will remain shelf-stable for two years.

### Recommended Uses

✓ Dry Food Products	✗ Liquids
✓ Base Powders	✗ Very Fine Powders
✓ Granular Products	✗ Salts
✓ Non-Food Products	✗ Teas with Strong Aromas

## Compostable Identification Logo



Your company is making an impact – now it’s time to ***shout it from the rooftops!*** The world of compostable products is a complicated one, and we want to make sure that the end consumer is informed about what they’re buying and how to properly dispose of it. To this end, we have created an identification logo that we require be placed in a visible location on your packaging. This ensures transparency and allows the consumer to acquire more information about your compostable packaging.

The next important question – ***“But what will my customers do with this?”***. We suggest end users add their empty compostable pouches to their backyard compost pile. Of course, not everyone has access to a home composter - that’s why this product is also industrial compostable for facilities that are outfit with heavy-duty composting equipment.

We wish it were as simple as popping in the municipal green bin, but since this pouch looks and feels like a traditional flexible pouch, most waste management centres can’t tell the difference at first glance. This means that the pouch will often be sorted out of the composting stream and be placed into the landfill stream. In end-life, this is not much different than conventional flexible packaging, which is not recyclable in most municipalities. This is where the ***compostable pouch’s pre-life cycle truly shines***, as it is produced using renewable, bio-based materials (did we mention it’s made from wood pulp and cornstarch resin?), which means it’s designed to break down faster than other materials without leaving harmful residues behind.

If this wasn't the answer you were hoping for, ***don't fret!*** Upcoming legislation suggests a universal approach to waste management, and Rootree is actively working with governments and waste management centres to allow this product to be placed in your green bin.

With the above in mind, it's time to consider whether compostable packaging is right for you. Not every pair is a ***match made in heaven***, so let your representative know if you think you need to consider another path – we have other sustainable packaging, such as truly recyclable options, that just might be the right fit!

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By signing below, I agree that I have read and understand the nature of packaging made from compostable materials. I will not hold Rootree liable for any imperfections on my packaging that have been outlined above.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date (MM/DD/YY): \_\_\_\_\_