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| **Typical Odor Causing Compounds from Composting** | | |
| **Compound Name** | **Chemical Formula** | **Primary Odor Characteristic** |
| Acetaldehyde | CH3CHO | Pungent |
| Ammonia | NH3 | Urine, pungent |
| Butyric acid | CH3CH2CH2COOH | Rancid, sour |
| Diethyl sulfide | C2H5C2H5S | Garlic |
| Dimethyl amine | CH3CH3NH | Fishy |
| Dimethyl sulfide | CH3CH3S | Foul, decayed cabbage |
| Ethyl mercaptan | C2H5SH | Decayed cabbage |
| Formaldehyde | HCHO | Pungent |
| Hydrogen sulfide | H2S | Rotten eggs |
| Indole |  | Fecal |
| Methyl mercaptan | CH3SH | Foul, decayed cabbage |
| Phenol | C6H5OH | Medicinal |
| Propyl mercaptan | C3H7SH | Unpleasant |
| Sulfur dioxide | SO2 | Pungent |
| Trimethyl amine | CH3CH3CH3N | Fishy, ammonical |
| Valeric acid | CH3CH2CH2CH2COOH | Body odor |
| Acetic acid | CH3COOH | vinegar |

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| **Estimated Carbon-to-Nitrogen Ratios** | |
| **Browns = High Carbon** | **C:N** |
| Ashes, wood | 25:1 |
| Cardboard, shredded | 350:1 |
| Corn stalks | 75:1 |
| Fruit waste | 35:1 |
| Leaves | 60:1 |
| Newspaper, shredded | 175:1 |
| Peanut shells | 35:1 |
| Pine needles | 80:1 |
| Sawdust | 325:1 |
| Straw | 75:1 |
| Wood chips | 400:1 |
| **Greens = High Nitrogen** | **C:N** |
| Alfalfa | 12:1 |
| Clover | 23:1 |
| Coffee grounds | 20:1 |
| Food waste | 20:1 |
| Garden waste | 30:1 |
| Grass clippings | 20:1 |
| Hay | 25:1 |
| Manures | 15:1 |
| Seaweed | 19:1 |
| Vegetable scraps | 25:1 |
| Weeds | 30:1 |