

Top Ten Recycling Tips



NUMBER CHECK

FIND THE RECYCLING NUMBER

The recycling number is usually on the base – if it's 1, 2 or 5 it can go in your yellow recycling bin, anything else (including items where you can't see a number and materials like polystyrene) must go in the rubbish.



LIDS (& LITTLES) ARE OUT

LIDS CAN'T BE RECYCLED

Anything lightweight like bottle tops (or lids of any kind) or plastic cutlery should go in the rubbish – even if it has a number it's too light to get through the sorting centre and it can jam up equipment.



DON'T SQUASH BOTTLES OR CANS

DON'T SQUASH PLASTIC BOTTLES OR CANS

No matter how tempting! The automated parts of the sorting facility can mistake them for flat cardboard and they can end up not being recycled.



NO (SOFT PLASTIC) SCRUNCHABLES

IF IT SCRUNCHES EASILY IT'S A SOFT PLASTIC

Soft plastics are anything you can easily scrunch or bend in your hand – like glad wrap, chip packets, biscuit trays, wrappers and ties. These are too lightweight to be sorted and need to go in the rubbish.



KEEP IT CLEAN (NO LEFTOVER FOODS)

YOU CAN'T RECYCLE IF IT'S NOT CLEAN

Containers with food residue still in them can't be recycled! In fact anything with food left on it must be cleaned before recycling or it should go in your rubbish bag or bin (or if it's cardboard with food on you can put it in your home composting).



NOT TOO BIG, NOT TOO SMALL

IF IT'S TOO BIG OR TOO SMALL IT CAN'T BE RECYCLED

Containers need to be at least the size of a yoghurt pottle but no larger than 3 litres (the size of the biggest milk container you can buy). Otherwise they won't go through the sorting facility.



NO CARTONS FOR LIQUIDS

CARTONS FOR LIQUIDS CAN'T BE RECYCLED

Cartons for liquids may look like cardboard, but they have plastic in them (and the same goes for take-away cups, unless home compostable). This means they can't be broken down to be recycled.



COMPOSTABLE DOESN'T MEAN RECYCLABLE

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Lots of containers look like plastic but are actually compostable or biodegradable (type No 7) which means they can't be recycled with other plastics. Unless they clearly state home compostable (so they can go in your compost bin) they need to go in the rubbish.



METAL CANS & TINS ONLY

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Other types of metal items can't be processed easily by our sorting plant. Think about reuse where possible and drop items like pots and pans off to re-use/op shops.



BIG ENOUGH TO SORT (BIGGER THAN AN ENVELOPE)

CARDBOARD AND PAPER MUST BE BIGGER THAN AN ENVELOPE

It needs to be larger than the size of an envelope to get through our sorting equipment, and any cardboard with a plastic coating such as food containers can't be recycled (and remember you can also home-compost paper and cardboard).

Non-recyclable plastics... their number's up!

From July 1, only put plastic types 1, 2 and 5 in your yellow bin.

