

The guidelines

These guidelines should not be simply copied into existing communications literature. They should be reviewed against existing arrangements. They are provided for:

- [Paper](#) (where paper is collected separately from card).
- [Card](#) (where card is collected separately from paper).
- [Metal packaging](#).
- [Glass packaging](#).
- [Plastic bottles](#) .



Paper

Yes please

- Newspapers and supplements.
- Magazines, brochures and catalogues.
- White paper (e.g. computer paper, letters).
- Shredded paper.
- Telephone directories.
- Leaflets and flyers.
- Envelopes
 - You can include those that have a window.

Please remember:

- Remove any plastic wrapping and free gifts from newspapers, magazines and flyers and put in the general rubbish.
- Paper is one of the most valuable recyclable materials – but only when it is clean.

No thanks

- Paper that is stained/dirty with foodstuffs, grease, paint or dirt
 - Once soiled with grease, paper cannot be recycled because the fibres cannot be separated from the oils during the recycling process.
- Hygiene/Sanitary products (i.e. nappies, wipes, sanitary towels etc.)
- Used paper towels.
- Tissues.
- Cotton wool/make up pads.
- Wet wipes.
- Sticky papers (e.g. Post-it notes, sticky labels or paper tape).
- Non-paper gift wrap (e.g. foil-based gift wrapping) or bags.
- Crisp or sweet packets/wrappers.
- Wallpaper and decoration paper.
- Brown paper
 - This should be recycled with card because it causes brown flecks in new paper, resulting in whole loads of paper being rejected.

Card

Yes please

All card from around the home, including:

- Cardboard boxes (e.g. cereal boxes, dishwasher tablet boxes).
- Corrugated cardboard.
- Online delivery boxes and cardboard envelopes
 - Remove all plastic inserts and polystyrene, as well as packing tape.
- Greetings cards without glitter
 - Tear off the glitter section, as well as any badges and batteries – the glitter cannot be removed and the recycled card has to be rejected.
- Egg boxes.
- Brown paper.

No thanks

- Card that is stained/dirty with foodstuffs, grease, paint or dirt (e.g. pizza boxes).
 - Once soiled with grease, paper and card cannot be recycled because the fibres cannot be separated from the oils during the recycling process.
- Glitter covered greetings cards.

No thanks – check for local recycling via either kerbside collections or bring bank collection points

- Food and drink cartons.

N.B: These guidelines are for materials commonly collected at kerbside rather than 'on the go' therefore do not include coffee cups or sandwich boxes.

Metal packaging

Yes please:

- Drinks cans.
- Food tins
 - Pop tin lids inside the tin.
- Biscuit/chocolate tins and their lids.
- Aerosols
 - Remove plastic caps and recycle with plastics.
- Aluminium foil (e.g. for baking, covering food)
 - Scrunch foil together to form a ball.
- Aluminium foil trays (e.g. take-away trays).
- Aluminium tubes e.g. tomato puree
 - Remove plastic caps.

Please remember:

- Empty and rinse items – left over foods or liquids can contaminate other recyclables.
- You can leave labels on: machines ensure these get removed.

No thanks – put these in your general rubbish

- Laminated foil (e.g. cat food / coffee pouches that spring back when you try and scrunch them. Pouches are currently not recyclable).
- Crisp packets and sweet wrappers.

No thanks – recycle with glass

- Metal lids and caps on glass containers (e.g. metal jam jar lids) can be left on and recycled with glass. These are different metals to cans/tins/aerosols so are recycled in a different way and by putting the lids/caps back on glass jars and bottles and recycling them with glass it reduces the chance of them getting lost through the sorting process.

No thanks – but you can recycle these at your local recycling centre

- Metal containers for chemicals (i.e. white spirits, paints, etc.) or engine oils.
- General kitchen ware e.g. cutlery, pots and pans.
- Any other metal items e.g. kettles, irons, pipes, white goods.

Glass packaging

Yes please:

All glass packaging from around the home, including:

- Bottles of any colour (e.g. wine, beer, spirits).
- Jars (e.g. sauces, jam, baby food).
- Non-food bottles (e.g. perfume, aftershave, face creams).

Please remember:

- Empty and rinse – it doesn't need to be spotlessly clean, a quick rinse will do. Left over liquid and residue can contaminate other materials which may mean they are not recycled.
- Metal lids and caps can be put back on – these will be removed and recycled. These are different metals to cans/tins/aerosols so are recycled in a different way and by putting the lids/caps back on glass jars and bottles it reduces the chance of them getting lost through the sorting process.

No thanks – put these in your general rubbish:

- Glass cookware (e.g. Pyrex).
- Drinking glasses.
- Vases.
- Ceramics (e.g. crockery or earthenware).
- Nail varnish bottles
 - It is difficult to remove the varnish and the bottles are so small that they are filtered out during the recycling process.
- Microwave plates.
- Mirrors.

Why's that?

These types of glass do not melt at the same temperature as bottles and jars. If they enter the glass recycling process it can result in new containers being rejected.

No thanks – but you can check for recycling these at your local recycling centre

- Light bulbs/tubes.
- Window glass (check with your local centre first).

Plastic bottles

Yes please

All clear and coloured plastics bottles from around the home:

- Detergent and soap bottles
 - Remove any pumps from the bottle and dispose of these (they are currently not recyclable).
- Cleaning product bottles (e.g. bathroom cleaners, bleach etc.)
 - Triggers can be left on to be recycled.
- Skin care product bottles.
- Shampoo/shower gel bottles.
- Fizzy and non-fizzy drinks and water bottles.
- Milk bottles.
- Ready-to-use plant food and pesticides bottles (check the label).

Please remember:

- Empty and rinse items, squash and replace lids/tops.
 - left over foods or liquids can contaminate other recyclables;
 - squashing will mean more space in the recycling bin/box;
 - if bottles contain liquid they might not be recycled, as they go through the automated sorting process (the extra weight stops the bottle being pushed into the correct recycling stream).
Liquid can also damage the machinery and contaminate other recyclables.
- Leave on labels: these will be removed in the recycling process.

No thanks

- Plastic bottles containing chemicals (e.g. anti-freeze).
 - Strong chemicals that are highly poisonous are hazardous to staff and can damage the recycling equipment. Check the bottle for disposal instructions.
- Anything that is NOT a plastic bottle.
- Anything that looks like a pot, tub, tray or tube.

WRAP's vision is a world in which resources are used sustainably.

Our mission is to accelerate the move to a sustainable resource-efficient economy through re-inventing how we design, produce and sell products; re-thinking how we use and consume products; and re-defining what is possible through re-use and recycling.

Find out more at
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