

Waste sorting guide

FOR HOUSEHOLDS



This guide will provide you with clever tips on how to sort your rubbish and where to dispose of it. We hope you'll find it useful!

You sort, we recycle!

PHOTO: PLATFORM JOHNER.SE



Ystads kommun

Did you know that every third piece of packaging you see in the supermarket is made from recycled material?



Sort more waste – even small actions can make a big difference! If all of Sweden's bottle tops were recycled instead of being thrown in the residual waste, there would be enough metal to make 2,200 new cars.

Recycling – a win every time!

By circulating materials in a cycle, we conserve raw materials and energy and reduce emissions. This is something we do together: as a local resident or visitor, you sort your waste based on the material it is made of, and the municipality is then responsible for ensuring it is sent for recycling.

Sorting your waste does more good than you might think – your food waste is turned into biogas and bio fertiliser and your old tin cans can be used to make rails for railways.

Here are some more reasons why you should sort your waste:

You conserve raw materials. When you sort your waste, the materials are recycled and used to make new products, avoiding the need to extract new oil, cut down more trees and so on.

You save energy. It takes much less energy to make products from recycled

material than from virgin raw material.

You reduce emissions when materials are recycled instead of being incinerated.

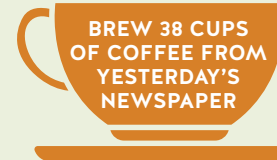
You also ensure that hazardous substances are not released into the environment. When you sort your hazardous waste, we make sure it is processed safely.

By ensuring that nature's raw materials stay within the cycle, you do the environment and yourself a big favour every time you recycle.



Still not convinced?

Your old newspaper is a real goldmine. Recycling it saves a lot of energy – more than enough to brew your morning coffee for a whole month.



YOU CAN GO A LONG WAY ON A FEW SCRAPS!

1,000 rotten banana peels allow you to drive 75 km in a biogas-powered car.

THIRTY-SEVEN PERCENT



Recycled cardboard produces 37 percent lower carbon emissions compared to virgin raw material.



ONE TONNE = 14 TREES!

Recycling newspapers and paper and cardboard packaging means that we don't have to cut down as many new trees. One tonne of recycled paper is equivalent to around 14 trees.

SAVES 95%

Recycling metal packaging conserves 95 percent of the energy it takes to manufacture virgin raw material.

Glass becomes new glass packaging or insulation material.



In Sweden we use around 160,000 tonnes of plastic packaging per year. For every kilo of plastic recycled, we avoid using around one litre of oil and generating two kilos of carbon dioxide.



Three questions about recycling

Do I have to wash packaging before it's recycled?

No. The packaging doesn't have to be clean, but it must be emptied of its contents. Packaging containing hazardous waste (such as nail varnish), however, must be sorted as hazardous waste at the recycling centre, with its contents still inside it.

What happens to the plastic that I separate from the other waste?

We take it to a reloading point in Tomelilla, where it is loaded onto larger freight containers then collected and driven to be recycled at Svensk Plaståtervinning's plant in Motala. If you recycle your plastic, it can be turned into things like sewer pipes, rubbish sacks and flowerpots.

Why should I sort my waste – doesn't it all get mixed together anyway?

The waste you sort is kept separate throughout the process – from when your bin is emptied to when the waste reaches its final destination. Plastic, paper, metal and glass are recycled and made into new materials, while food waste becomes biogas and biofertiliser. The residual waste is incinerated.

Waste sorting guide for the home and the recycling point

By 1 January 2027 at the latest, everyone should be able to sort food waste and packaging in containers where they live. You can also dispose of packaging and newspapers at a recycling point.



FOOD WASTE

Food waste is separated from other waste so it can be turned into biogas and biofertiliser. Food waste is disposed of in special paper bags provided by the municipality and then placed in the bin for food waste.

EXAMPLES: FOOD SCRAPS, FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PEELINGS, EGG-SHELLS, FISH SCRAPS, SMALL MEAT BONES, COFFEE GROUNDS AND FILTERS, TEA LEAVES AND TEA BAGS.



RESIDUAL WASTE

Residual waste is what is left over when hazardous waste and anything that can be recycled has been sorted. Residual waste must be put in a bag before being placed in the bin for residual waste.

EXAMPLES: VACUUM CLEANER BAGS, DISHCLOTHS, WASHING-UP BRUSHES, TOOTHBRUSHES (NOT ELECTRIC TOOTHBRUSHES), NAPPIES, ENVELOPES, CAT LITTER AND WOOD SHAVINGS FOR ANIMAL/BIRD CAGES, CHEWING GUM, SNUS AND CIGARETTES.



NEWSPAPERS

Newspapers and other paper are separated from other waste and recycled so they can be made into new paper.

EXAMPLES: NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, LEAFLETS, BROCHURES, CATALOGUES, WRITING AND DRAWING PAPER AND PAPERBACK BOOKS.

Ordinary envelopes (with or without windows) are not recyclable. These are sorted as residual waste.



PAPER PACKAGING

Paper packaging is separated from other waste, recycled and turned into new paper packaging.

EXAMPLES: MILK CARTONS, EGG BOXES, FLOUR AND SUGAR BAGS, PAPER CARRIER BAGS, SHOE BOXES, WRAPPING PAPER, PADDED ENVELOPES AND TOILET ROLLS.



PLASTIC PACKAGING

Both soft and rigid plastic packaging can be recycled. Plastic packaging must be put in a plastic bag before being disposed of in the plastic packaging bin.

EXAMPLES: PLASTIC BOTTLES, JARS AND TRAYS, PLASTIC BAGS, CLING FILM, REFILL PACKS AND STYRO-FOAM.



METAL PACKAGING

Metal packaging can be recycled a great number of times, as long as you sort it.

EXAMPLES: CANS, BOTTLE TOPS, LIDS, ALUMINIUM FOIL TRAYS, TUBES, DISPOSABLE BARBECUES AND ALUMINIUM FOIL.

Broken drinking glasses must be wrapped securely and placed in the residual waste or taken to the recycling centre.



COLOURED AND CLEAR GLASS PACKAGING

Coloured and clear glass packaging are separated. Lids, bottle tops and corks are removed and sorted as metal packaging or, where relevant, as plastic.

EXAMPLE: GLASS BOTTLES AND JARS.



Packaging items for which you pay a deposit are not sorted as plastic or metal packaging. They should be taken to a reverse vending machine.

At www.sysav.se there is a waste sorting guide in which you can easily search for the waste you want to sort. Scan the code with your mobile phone to access it!



Tricky waste

METAL OR PLASTIC?

Not sure if the packaging is metal or plastic? Scrunch it up!



If it retains its crumpled shape, it's metal.



If it resumes its former shape, it's plastic.



MIXED MATERIALS

Packaging consisting of several different materials is sorted according to the material it is mainly composed of.

TOP ITEMS ON THE TRICKY WASTE LIST – plastic, cardboard or residual waste?

Here are 15 common (and perhaps tricky-to-sort) types of rubbish – how well can you sort them? Test your sorting know-

ledge in our quiz! Should it be sorted as plastic packaging, residual waste or paper packaging?

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 1. Corrugated cardboard | 9. Ribbon for gift wrapping |
| 2. Styrofoam | 10. Toothbrushes made of plastic |
| 3. Plastic drinking glasses | 11. Wrapping paper |
| 4. Cling film | 12. Post-it notes |
| 5. Padded envelopes | 13. Bag clips made of plastic with metal wire in them |
| 6. Ordinary envelopes | 14. Wrapping tissue |
| 7. CD and VHS cases | 15. Plastic flowerpots |
| 8. Plastic/metal blister packs | |

HERE ARE THE ANSWERS!

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Residual waste | 9. Paper packaging |
| 2. Plastic packaging | 10. Plastic packaging |
| 3. Residual waste | 11. Paper packaging |
| 4. Plastic packaging | 12. Residual waste |
| 5. Paper packaging | 13. Plastic packaging |
| 6. Residual waste | 14. Paper packaging |
| 7. Residual waste | 15. Plastic packaging |

Three questions about packaging

Can I throw all types of glass in the bin for glass packaging?

No. Glass packaging is free from environmentally hazardous substances because it is intended to contain food and drink. Other types of glass, such as drinking glasses, windows and mirrors are made of toughened glass and often contain heavy metals that spoil glass packaging for recycling.

Why are frying pans not sorted as metal packaging?

In Sweden, we have something called producer responsibility – anyone who manufactures, imports or sells a packaged product pays a fee that covers the cost of recycling the packaging. As a frying pan is not packaging, it must instead be sorted as scrap metal at a recycling centre.

What actually counts as packaging?

Packaging is the material used to protect, handle, deliver and present a product. For example, a toothpaste tube is used as packaging for the product known as toothpaste, whereas the toothbrush is a product.



Large packaging items belong at the recycling point.

OUR TOP TIPS FOR EFFECTIVE WASTE SORTING



Plastic packaging should be placed in plastic bags before disposal.

Tips and tricks when sorting your waste

Empty food packaging of its contents.

It doesn't need to be washed, but you can rinse it out if you like.

wise the plastic packaging might get caught by the wind when the bin is emptied.

Paper packaging items can be placed inside each other. This means they'll take up less space in the bin and in the refuse collection vehicle.

If you don't have much space in your kitchen, you can keep all your packaging in the same container and then sort it when you get to the bins.

Plastic packaging must be placed in a plastic bag before being discarded. Other-

Newspapers and packaging made of paper, metal and glass should be placed loose in the bin.

Empty, fold and flatten!

Folding and flattening paper packaging allows you to fit more in the bin. Waste transport is also more environmentally friendly when we collect as much packaging as possible every time the bins are emptied.

A smart way to fold milk cartons!



Empty the carton and unfold the corners at the top.



Flatten the carton and fold up the bottom.



Turn the carton over and fold the sides in towards the centre.



Turn the carton back over and tuck the top into the folded-up bottom.



PHOTO: ULF HUETT NILSSON/JOHNER BILDBYRA



PHOTO: SARA LAGER



Flowers and plants are not sorted as food waste but as garden waste, or placed in the residual waste.

Take care of your food scraps

We throw away large quantities of food every day – about a fifth of all the food we buy! This isn't good for the environment or your wallet. Food that's edible shouldn't be thrown away, but food waste – such as peelings, tops and cores from fruits and vegetables – should be sorted so we can turn it into biogas and biofertiliser.

What is food waste?

Food waste is anything left over after you've cooked or eaten that can't be saved.

SORTED AS FOOD WASTE

- Inedible food scraps
- Fruit and vegetable peelings
- Eggshells
- Fish scraps
- Coffee grounds, including filters
- Tea leaves and tea bags
- Small amounts of kitchen roll and napkins

NOT SORTED AS FOOD WASTE

Remember to keep an extra eye on the scraps on your plate. Things like bottle tops, chewing gum, snus, cigarette butts and plastic do not belong in the food waste.

- Wood shavings for animal/bird cages, cat litter and dog poopbags are disposed of as residual waste
- Cigarette butts, cigarettes, snus and chewing gum are disposed of as residual waste
- Flowers and pot plants are garden waste
- Plastic bags and food packaging are sorted as packaging

TIPS TO PREVENT WET PAPER BAGS

Let potato peelings, coffee filters and other wet food waste drain off before putting them in the food waste bag. You can also place a page of a newspaper in the bottom of the bag or use double bags.

Here's how it works

You place your food waste in the brown paper bags you receive from the municipality.

Use the food waste bag holder the municipality provided you with – it's designed to air the bag properly.

Replace the bag when it is two-thirds full, or after two to three days.

Close the food waste bag in the same way you would close a paper bag from the bakery. You can place the bag in a second food waste bag when you take it out to the bin, but never in a plastic bag.

Take care of your food waste bin and rinse it out occasionally. During the summer, you can spray the bin with vinegar solution to avoid larvae and flies.

DETACHED AND SEMI-DETACHED HOUSES

You receive food waste bag holders and food waste bags from the municipal waste management unit. Keep the bags in a cool place. To get new food waste bags, you place an empty bag under the lid of the bin on collection day, and the refuse collector will leave new bags for you. You can also collect new bags and food waste bag holders from the municipality at Koppargatan 7 in Ystad.

APARTMENT BUILDINGS

If you live in an apartment building, the owner of the building will tell you where you can pick up a food waste bag holder and food waste bags. The owner contacts the municipality to order new bags.

BUSINESSES

Businesses contact the municipality to order food waste bag holders and food waste bags. Businesses with commercial kitchens can order trolleys and sacks for larger quantities of food waste. Remember to order them in time – delivery can take up to 14 days.



RECIPE FOR VINEGAR SOLUTION

Mix one part vinegar with one part water.



PHOTO: JENNY BRANDT

Not sure if something is food waste or not? Dispose of it as residual waste to ensure that the quality of the food waste collected remains high.



The bags reduce the risk of odours and keep flies away. They are very resistant to moisture but need plenty of air. Put the bag in the food waste bag holder the municipality provided you with.



PHOTO: BOBIL JOHANSSON FOR VA SYD



Private individuals can make 26 free trips per year to the recycling centre.



Light bulbs and batteries can be taken to the recycling centre. Batteries can also be placed in the battery bins available at most recycling points.

PHOTO: JÖREEN WIKLUND/JOHNER BILDBYRÅ

Waste sorting guide for the recycling centre and hazardous waste

After you've sorted the most common waste at home and at the recycling point, you have to take the rest to the recycling centre. Frying pans and bicycles are sorted as scrap metal, spray cans and tubes of glue are sorted as hazardous waste, and so on.

THE RECYCLING CENTRE

The recycling centre at Blåsborgsvägen 161 outside Hedeskoga is operated by the waste management company Sysav. Private individuals can make 26 free trips per year to the recycling centre. More information is available at: www.sysav.se.

HAZARDOUS WASTE

Hazardous waste should be separated from other waste and placed in labelled containers so that staff know what it is and can handle it safely. Take hazardous waste to the recycling centre or the hazardous waste lorry, which visits Ystad a few times a year. Read more at: www.sysav.se.

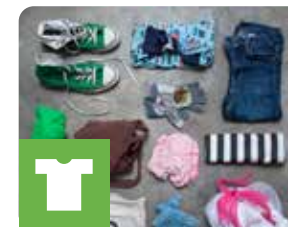
Scrap metal such as screws, fittings, cutlery and pots and pans should be taken to the recycling centre.



BULKY WASTE

Waste that is heavy or bulky and not suitable for collection in bins is taken to the recycling centre.

EXAMPLES: FURNITURE, CARPETS, BICYCLES AND PRAMS.



TEXTILES

You can take clothes, fabrics and shoes to the recycling centre for reuse and recycling.

EXAMPLES: CLOTHES, SHEETS, TOWELS, CURTAINS AND SHOES.



GARDEN WASTE

Garden waste can be taken to the recycling centre. You can also order a bin for garden waste from the municipality.

EXAMPLES: WEEDS, DEAD PLANTS, GRASS CUTTINGS, MOSS, LEAVES, AND TWIGS AND CLIPPINGS FROM SHRUBS AND TREES.



ELECTRONICS

Electronics are separated from other waste and taken to the recycling centre or the hazardous waste lorry.

EXAMPLES: TOYS WITH ELECTRIC CORDS OR BATTERY-OPERATED TOYS, COMPUTERS, TELEVISIONS AND HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES, MOBILE PHONES, HAIR DRYERS, ELECTRIC TOOTHBRUSHES, TOASTERS, VACUUM CLEANERS, CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTS, BATTERIES AND LIGHT BULBS.



HAZARDOUS WASTE

Hazardous waste is separated from other waste and taken to the recycling centre or the hazardous waste lorry.

EXAMPLES: CHEMICALS, SPRAY CANS, SOLVENTS AND CLEANING AGENTS, PAINT, VARNISH AND GLUE RESIDUES, OILS AND OIL FILTERS, AND MATERIALS CONTAINING MERCURY.



MEDICAL WASTE

Medical waste is separated from other waste and taken to a pharmacy in transparent plastic bags. Injection needles are placed in a special container available from pharmacies. Pharmacies do not accept thermometers - they should be sorted as electronics (digital) or hazardous waste (mercury).

EXAMPLES: LEFTOVER MEDICINES, SYRINGES AND NEEDLES.

Reduce and reuse

199 kg of rubbish in the bin for residential waste! This was the average for Ystad residents in 2020. If we also count sorted waste – food waste, packaging and items taken to the recycling centre – we each threw away 483 kg of waste in

2020. In 1920, the corresponding figure was around 30 kg per person. Larger amounts of waste mean greater use of resources and increased emissions. Together, we need to reduce the amount of waste we produce.

What can you do?

No one can do everything, but everyone can do something.

Reducing the mountain of waste doesn't have to be a huge project. Which of our suggestions works best for you?



Flea markets and second-hand. Going to a flea market is a pleasant activity for those who enjoy shopping. Can you organise a flea market on the street where you live?



Borrow, share and rent. A drill is used for an average of 15 minutes during its lifetime. Can you borrow or rent gadgets and machines you rarely use?



Give things away. Put up a shelf for unwanted items at your workplace, the kids' preschool or your sports club.



Repair and reuse. Paint or reupholster a piece of furniture to make it good as new! Make alterations to clothes you don't use – maybe you just need to change the shoulder straps on your dress to make you love it again?



Think about your actions. A lot of the items that end up in the rubbish are disposable. What do you throw away a lot of? Can you choose reusable options instead?