

Conservation

New Recycling List

Recycled materials such as paper and cardboard, metals and plastic can be sold around the world but the prices and demand for these materials constantly change. To get the best value for the materials collected in Ireland, they need to be cleaned and sorted. China and India are major buyers of recyclable material from Europe and they use these materials for manufacturing instead of extracting raw materials. Over the past year, China and India have requested higher standards and are no longer purchasing mixed materials such as plastics, paper or cardboard baled together.

For Ireland to sell its recyclable materials we need to be able to separate these materials quickly and easily. To make it clearer for households, a new list has been compiled of the items that can be placed in the recycle bin. These items should be clean, dry and loose:



If it's not on the list, it's not in the recycle bin.

Why am I NOT on the list?

Coffee Cups

A disposable coffee cup is made from paper but has a plastic lining that is difficult to remove, so coffee cups must go in your black bin.

Carrier Bags / Refuse Sack

Plastic bags get tangled in the machines and slow down work on the sorting lines as people must empty them.

Soft Plastics

We do not have the technology to recycle soft plastics such as wrappers.

Paper Towels / Napkins

These items are usually made from recycled paper that can only be recycled a limited number of times. You can put them in your compost bin.

Glass

Glass is 100% recyclable, however, glass does not go in the recycle bin. Glass should be placed in glass/bottle banks.

Aluminium Foil & Trays

Food can be difficult to clean off used foil and trays so it's best to put them in your black bin.

Dirty Pizza Boxes

Food stained paper should go in the general waste or compost bin as food is a major contaminant in paper recycling.

Clean,
Dry and
Loose

Your mixed recycle bin is sorted into different categories for recycling. If you have placed items inside one another, the machines will not be able to sort them and unwanted items such as food or nappies can enter the system while precious resources are lost.

If items once contained food or liquid they must be rinsed clean and given a shake to remove the water before going into your recycle bin. Food and liquid can contaminate the materials in the recycling bin. Wet paper cannot be recycled.

Information from

<http://recyclinglistireland.ie/>

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