

Why should items be placed loosely in the bin?

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.



What about Glass?

Glass does not go in the household recycling bin. It should be collected and placed in glass/bottle banks as the separate collection of glass produces the highest quality recycled glass. Glass is 100% recyclable.

Glass can be recycled repeatedly without losing any of its properties.

Not all glassware can be put in glass banks such as cookware, Pyrex, plates, cups and ceramics as they have a different melting point to traditional glass.

The metal or plastic lids of glass items can be placed in the recycling bin.

Household Recycling Do's & Don'ts

Clean ✓



Dirty ✗



Dry ✓



Wet ✗



Loose ✓



Packed ✗



Your recycling list!



Tins & Cans



Rigid Plastic



Paper & Cardboard

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Why is there a new list?

Recycled materials such as paper and cardboard, metals and plastic can be sold on the global market but the prices and demand for these materials constantly change.

To get the best value for our materials, 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. Each household must take care that they only add items from the list to the recycle bin and these items should be clean, dry and loose.

Why should the items be clean and dry?

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.

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.



Glass

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



Carrier Bags/ Refuse Sack

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



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.



Soft Plastics

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



Dirty Pizza Boxes

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



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.