

Recycling FAQs

1) What can or cannot be recycled?

Please refer to the information provided on the labels on the recycling bins. Generally, common household items made from paper, plastics, metals and glass such as newspaper, beverage cartons, cans, containers and bottles can be recycled. For a more detailed list of recyclables, please refer to this [link](#).

2) Where can I deposit my recyclables?

You may deposit your recyclables into the recycling chutes or blue recycling bins. Each block and landed home is provided with a recycling bin. For HDB blocks launched since 2014 and condominiums taller than 4 storeys and with development applications submitted to URA from 1 April 2018, they are required to be fitted with recycling chutes.

3) Is the truck that collects recyclables from the blue recycling bin the same one that collects general waste?

No. Recyclables are collected by dedicated blue recycling trucks, and sent to Materials Recovery Facilities (MRFs) where they are sorted, baled and sent to local/overseas recycling plants

4) Why do I not need to segregate the recyclables before depositing into the blue bins?

Singapore adopts a commingled collection system where all types of recyclables (i.e. paper, metal, plastic and glass items) can be deposited into the blue bins. The recyclables are sent to Materials Recovery Facilities (MRFs) where the different types of recyclables are sorted, baled and sent to local/overseas recycling plants.

5) Can I recycle bottles and containers that are empty, but haven't been rinsed?

Yes, unless there are food or liquid remnants that need to be removed by rinsing.

6) Are more resources wasted to wash the recyclables compared to just disposing them?

Most household items for recycling e.g. bottles, cans, containers and cartons for packaging food and beverage would not need much washing. Notwithstanding, items that require too much washing e.g. very oily containers can be discarded as general waste.

7) Different plastics have different numbers and symbols printed on them. Which of these can be recycled?

These numbers are Resin Identification Codes used by manufacturers and recyclers. They do not inform consumers whether they can be recycled or not. To find out what plastic items can be recycled, please refer to the list at this [link](#). You do not need to segregate the plastic items by number but can deposit them into the commingled blue recycling bins.

8) Is it safe to recycle breakable glassware in recycling bins?

Currently, residents can place their unwanted glassware into the recycling bins for recycling.

9) If contamination happens in the recycling bin, are any of the contents still recycled?

If the contamination is limited, uncontaminated items can still be salvaged for recycling at the Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs).

10) Where can I recycle food waste?

Food waste from households is currently not collected for recycling. Nonetheless, residents are encouraged to do their part by reducing the amount of food waste generated.

11) Where can I recycle e-waste?

You can find out the locations of e-waste recycling points at this [link](#).

Alternatively, the locations of recycling bins or avenues can be located via the myENV app available on Apple App Store or Google Play (under Reduce, Reuse, Recycle > Click on map).

Do note that some of the abovementioned programmes only accepts small e-waste and may not be able take in bulky e-waste or large household appliances.

In such cases, you may wish to contact the town council for assistance to dispose of such e-waste or trade in when you buy new ones. Most large retailers currently offer one-for-one takeback services for large household appliances.

12) Are recycling bins provided at schools?

Yes. All MOE schools are provided with blue recycling bins.

Some schools also have E-waste recycling bins. You can find out the locations of these bins at this [link](#), or via the myENV app available on Apple App Store or Google Play (under Reduce, Reuse, Recycle > Click on map).