




Sorting for recycling

You may find these symbols on plastic containers, which mean that they can be recycled.

▷ Collect empty plastic containers, look for the symbols to identify which type of plastic they are, and sort them into groups for recycling. Use the symbols to label the boxes you store them in.



Symbol	Name	Description	Example uses
 PET/PETE	Polyethylene terephthalate	Rigid, usually clear or green	Fizzy drinks bottles, water bottles, vegetable oil bottles 
 HDPE	High-density polyethylene	Semi-rigid, clear, or coloured and opaque	Household bottles – milk, bleach, detergent, hand lotion; margarine tubs
 PVC	Polyvinyl-chloride	Semi-rigid, glossy	Detergent bottles, pipes
 LDPE	Low-density polyethylene	Flexible, smooth, glossy	Bin bags, sandwich bags, can-pack rings
 PP	Polypropylene	Semi-rigid, very slightly glossy	Buckets, tubs, screw-on lids 
 PS	Polystyrene	Stiff, can be brittle, glossy, often textured	Food trays, disposable beakers, CD cases
 OTHER		A plastic that doesn't fit above categories, may be acrylic, melamine	Plastic plates, items using layers of different plastics