

# Recycling Symbols Guide

This guide provides an overview of the different recycling symbols and codes commonly found on packaging, detailing their meanings and implications for the recycling process.

## Step 1: **Identify Symbols**

Examine packaging for recycling symbols, which typically consist of three arrows looping back on themselves, forming a triangle, sometimes with numbers or letters inside.

## Step 2: **Number Codes**

Identify the number inside the triangle (1-7), which corresponds to the type of plastic used. Each number represents a different type of resin, from PETE (#1) to polystyrene (#6) and other (#7).

## Step 3: **Letter Codes**

Look for letters which often indicate the type of material (e.g., 'PAP' for paper, 'GL' for glass). These can help you determine the right recycling stream.

## Step 4: **Other Symbols**

Note any other symbols, such as the Green Dot, the Mobius Loop without a number (indicating general recyclability), or composting labels, and understand their specific meanings.

## Step 5: **Local Guidelines**

Cross-reference the symbols with local recycling guidelines, as recyclability can vary depending on regional processing capabilities.

## **General Notes**

### **International Variation**

Recycling symbols and their interpretations may vary internationally, always check local guidelines even for seemingly universal symbols.

### **Cleaning**

Before recycling items, ensure they are clean and free from food waste, as contamination can prevent recycling.