

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.

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