



What you need to know when recycling Multi-layer Plastics



Multi-layer plastics can now be recycled.



Plastics Food Packaging numbered 1 – 7 is recyclable.



Plastics marked with the "7" code indicates that more than one material is used.



There are many different ways to recycle multi-layer plastics, such as kerbside collection or simply taking recyclables to drop off centres near you.

www.

Find your nearest drop-off site and buy-back centre for recyclables on www.mywaste.co.za

**Reduce,
Reuse,
Recover
and
Recycle**

Crush plastic containers to save space in your recycling bin.

Do not let your plastics end their valuable lives on a landfill.

When it comes to recycling plastics, we all agree: It is a great idea.

No one wants packaging clogging our landfill or ending up in our environment ... but how much do you really know about plastics and recycling?



How 2 recycle Multi-layer Plastics

Plastics
don't litter
People do!

You can help us make a
difference!

Be responsible. Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

This guide is part of the

How 2 SERIES on Plastics and Related Issues

published by **Plastics|SA** in association with the MLPF.

Where can I find
more information?

Plastics|SA
www.plasticsinfo.co.za

MLPF
Multilayer Packaging Forum

Plastics|SA
www.plasticsinfo.co.za

RECYCLE

Multi-layer Plastics



Plastic products make our lives easier, cleaner, safer and more enjoyable. They are in the clothes we wear, the houses we live in, the cars we drive.

Plastics Make it Possible
They are part of our everyday life

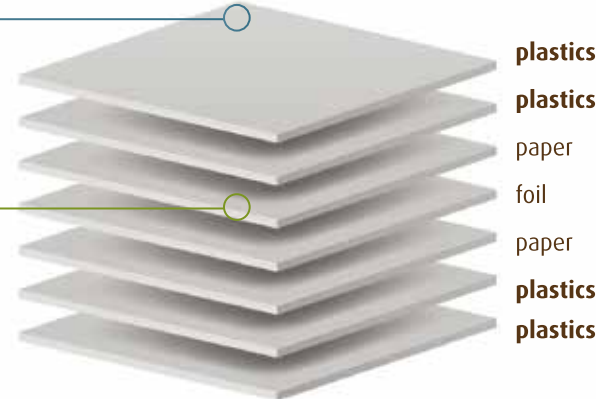
Toys, televisions, computers, aeroplanes and toothbrushes – they all contain plastics!

WHAT ARE
multi-layer
Plastics?

Multi-layer materials are used where **special barrier properties are required** in order to **protect the product**

A N D

increase the shelf life



These properties are not obtainable with single material packaging.



Did you know?

Multi-layer materials incorporate a mix of plastics and/or paper and/or foil.

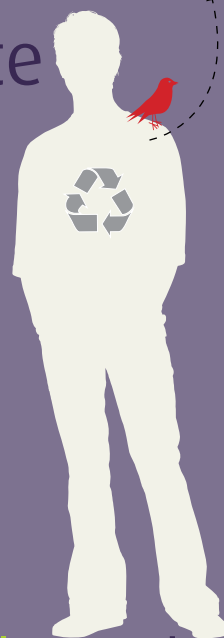
The volume of multi-layer materials constitutes **<3%** of the total plastics usage in South Africa.



Plastics

too valuable to Waste

You can help us to make a difference!



Plastics have changed the world through innovation and invention and play an integral part in virtually every aspect of daily life. The global benefits of recycling are far reaching yet many households and companies still don't recycle!

Reduce | Reuse | Recover | Recycle

4 good reasons to recycle!

Recycling benefits both the environment and the economy.



Recycling not only keeps our environment clean, it also turns waste into something useful; reduces litter and pollution and extends the life of our landfill sites.

The materials that you recycle will go back into the production streams and save huge amounts of energy and raw materials – reducing our carbon, hand and footprints too.

Recycling saves energy and water.

Recycling supports job creation.



It is the right thing to do!

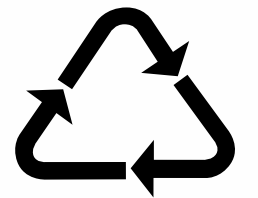
UNDERSTANDING Plastics and their numbers

The International Plastics Identification coding system is a set of symbols placed on plastics to identify the polymer type. The primary purpose of the codes is to allow efficient separation of different polymer types for recycling.



Recycling symbol

The universal recycling symbol is an internationally recognised symbol for recyclable materials.



International Polymer Identification Code

The universal identification code for plastics packaging.