

Waste Sorting Guide

- A guide to help you better sort your household waste



VIMMERBY • HULTSFRED • HÖGSBY

New Collection System

Thank you for sorting your waste!

We have begun implementing the new collection system for packaging, newspapers, food waste, residual waste, batteries, and lighting.

Sorting and handling each type of waste in the correct manner allows us to maximize recycling. To facilitate recycling, every household is responsible for sorting its own waste.

In this guide, you can find information about how your waste must be sorted, how food waste should be handled, and where the waste bin should be placed.

We hope that this system will both improve and simplify waste sorting for you at home!

And remember ...

- Shop smart and plan your purchases in order to minimize the amount of waste you create.
- Make the most of your food leftovers, and reduce food waste.
- Consume sustainably by making things from scratch, borrowing, and reusing items.



This brochure is printed on Swan Eco-labelled paper.

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The best kind of waste is the kind that never gets produced in the first place!



Food Waste

The following should be sorted as food waste

- Peelings and remnants of fruits and vegetables
- Coffee grounds and tea dregs, including filters/bags
- Food scraps (both prepared and raw) from meat, fish, egg shells, potatoes, cheese, bread, etc
- Fish scraps, shrimp and crab shells, meat, chicken, and fish bones
- Butter, margarine, oil, and other edible fats

How To Do It

- ▶ Dispose of food waste in the paper bags that are included in your subscription.
- ▶ Allow wet waste to drain for a few minutes in the sink prior to disposing of it.
- ▶ The bag may be filled up to the dotted line.
- ▶ Fold the top of the bag over, and place it in the food waste compartment in Bin 1.

Don't forget your bag holder!

Place the bag in the included holder. The holder can be placed or hung in the cabinet under your kitchen sink, and is also suitable for modern, pull-out waste bin systems from all Nordic kitchen manufacturers.

In order for moisture to evaporate, it is important that the bag and holder are well-aerated. If the bag cannot “breathe,” it will become soggy more quickly, odours will be more pronounced, and it will be more difficult to handle the bag. Since the bag “breathes,” it is normal for it to look damp without seeping liquid.

Food waste will be transformed into biogas and bio-fertilizer, which will be spread on farmers' fields.

- Be careful not to mix tobacco products, medicine, plastic, packaging, nappies, waxed paper, or other waste in with your food waste.
- Use only the paper bags you receive from us.

Do you need more paper bags?

When your supply of paper bags begins to dwindle, attach an empty paper bag to the underside of the lid of Bin 1. You will receive new bags the next time the bin is emptied. We will put the new bags in the newspaper/recycled paper section of the bin. You may also collect new bags at the recycling centre.





Newspapers

These should be sorted as newspapers/ recycled paper

- Daily and weekly newspapers
- Magazines
- Catalogues (mail order, telephone, and travel catalogues)
- Flyers, brochures
- Writing/drawing paper
- Paperback books

How To Do It

- ▶ Remove the plastic wrapping around newspapers and advertisements, and sort it as plastic packaging.
- ▶ You need not remove staples, spirals, and similar items from magazines or notepads. They will be separated later on in the recycling process using magnets, and sent on to be recycled as metal.
- ▶ Place newspapers/recycled paper directly in the newspaper compartment in Bin 1.
- ▶ If you have a red subscription, you must leave newspapers in the designated containers at a recycling station.



Do not sort the following items as newspaper

- Envelopes, Post-It notes, and postcards must be disposed of in the residual waste compartment in Bin 1.
- Paper packaging, paper shopping bags, wrapping paper, and packaging paper must be disposed of in the paper packaging compartment in Bin 2, or at a recycling station.

Sweden is amongst the top-ranked countries in the world when it comes to recycling cardboard and newspaper.

Paper fibre can be recycled up to seven times before it wears out.



Glass Containers

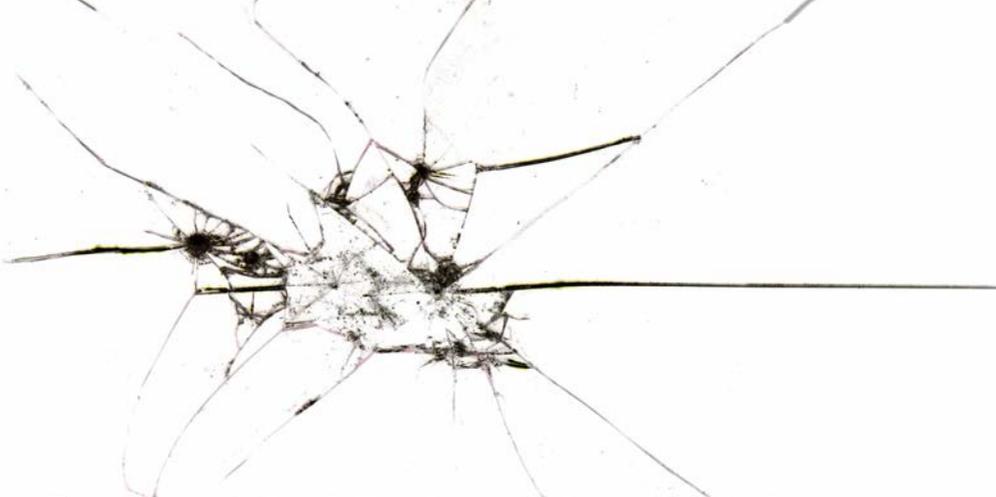
These items are sorted as glass containers - coloured and clear

- Glass bottles, such as juice and wine bottles, and beer bottles that have no deposit.
- Glass jars, such as those used for jam, pickle, and pickled herring.

How To Do It

- ▶ Coloured and clear glass containers are sorted separately.
- ▶ Metal bottle caps must be removed and sorted as metal packaging, but the rings that remain after a cap is removed do not need to be taken off.
- ▶ Place coloured glass directly in the coloured glass compartment in Bin 1.
- ▶ Place clear glass directly in the clear glass compartment in Bin 2.
- ▶ If you have a yellow subscription, you must leave clear glass in the designated containers at a recycling station.
- ▶ If you have a red subscription, you must leave all glass packaging (sorted according to colour) in the designated containers at a recycling station.





Do not sort the following as glass packaging

- Returnable bottles must be taken to a reverse vending machine, located in most supermarkets.
- Drinking glasses, window glass, oven dishes, mirrors, porcelain, ceramics, and light bulbs must be disposed of at the municipality's manned recycling centre.

Helpful Hint - What is considered to be packaging?

All products, regardless of their material, which are used to contain, protect, handle, deliver, and present another product are considered to be packaging.

Glass can be recycled an unlimited number of times without diminishing its quality.

Glass recycling requires 20% less energy than producing new glass from scratch.



Paper Packaging

The following is sorted as paper packaging

- Milk, yoghurt, and juice cartons
- Pasta and breakfast cereal boxes
- Sugar packets
- Paper shopping bags
- Paper pet food bags
- Cardboard
- Other packaging that is composed primarily of paper

How To Do It

- ▶ If you need to conserve space, you can flatten and fold the packaging. You can also place smaller packaging inside larger packaging. An empty milk carton can hold at least five flattened and folded cartons of the same size.
- ▶ If the paper packaging has a plastic cap, unscrew the cap and sort as plastic packaging. The plastic piece that is attached to the packaging can be left in place. It will be separated from the paper later in the recycling process.





- ▶ Place paper packaging (either loose or stuffed one inside the other) in the paper packaging compartment in Bin 2.
- ▶ If you have a yellow or red subscription, you must leave paper packaging in the designated containers at a recycling station.

Do not sort the following as paper packaging

- Envelopes and Post-It notes must be disposed of in the residual waste compartment in Bin 1.
- Daily and weekly newspapers, brochures, flyers, and writing/drawing paper should be disposed of in the newspaper compartment in Bin 1.

Helpful Hint – Do I need to rinse packaging prior to disposal?

It is not necessary to rinse packaging in order for it to be recyclable. However, you may prefer to rinse packaging - for example, if you keep packaging waste in your kitchen for an extended period of time prior to recycling it. If you have a green subscription, you can simply dispose of packaging waste in your multi-compartment bin, and avoid having to store it in your kitchen, cellar, or garage.



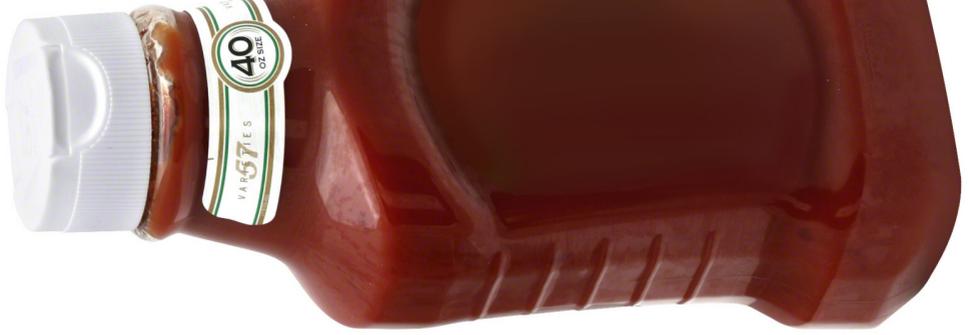
Plastic Packaging

The following is sorted as plastic packaging

- Both hard and soft plastic packaging
- Plastic shopping bags of all kinds
- Plastic tubes
- Refill packages
- Plastic foil and plastic film, such as that used to package mince, ham, and cucumbers
- Inner sachets, such as those in a package of muesli.
- Bottles, jars, and small-size tubs and buckets, such as those used for jam and washing liquid
- Crisps Packets
- Styrofoam and polystyrene, such as the polystyrene trays used to package meat and fish
- Other packaging that is composed primarily of plastic

How To Do It

- ▶ Soft plastic packaging can be compacted and stuffed inside of another item, such as a bread bag, so that it takes up less space and will be easier to handle.
- ▶ Hard plastic packaging should be disposed of in loose form, to make the recycling process easier.
- ▶ Dispose of plastic waste in the plastic packaging compartment in Bin 2.
- ▶ If you have a yellow or red subscription, you must leave plastic packaging in the designated containers at a recycling station.



Helpful Hint – Packaging that is composed of multiple materials

Some packaging can be easily pulled apart (into its paper and plastic components, for example), in such a way that everything ends up in the right place. If this is not the case, simply dispose of the packaging according to its primary material.

Is an aluminium-lined bag considered to be plastic or metal packaging?

Crinkle the packaging together with your hands. If it holds its shape, it should be sorted as metal packaging. If it returns (more or less) to its original shape, then it should be sorted as plastic packaging.

Do not sort the following as plastic packaging

- Plastic toys, plastic furniture, laundry bins, video cassettes, plastic folders, and other products that are not packaging materials:
Dispose of these in the residual waste compartment in Bin 1, or at your municipality's manned recycling centre, depending upon the size of the item.
- Returnable plastic bottles with deposit: Should be returned using the bottle return systems/reverse vending machines in most supermarkets.



Metal Packaging

The following is sorted as metal packaging

- Hermetic tins
- Aluminium foil
- Metal tubes
- Bottle caps
- The foil tops from crème fraîche or other similar containers
- Metal lids and caps
- Empty metal paint tins (dry and scraped out)
- Other packaging that is composed primarily of metal





How To Do It

- ▶ Every little bit of packaging counts! Even small bits of metal, such as bottle caps, lids, the foil from the top of a container of crème fraîche, and screw caps.
- ▶ Flatten and fold metal tubes as much as you can. To avoid unpleasant odours, you can leave the cap on. Dispose of metal packaging directly in the metal packaging compartment in Bin 2.
- ▶ If you have a yellow or red subscription, you must leave metal packaging in the designated containers at a recycling station.

Do not sort the following as metal packaging

- Tins containing paint, glue, or solvent residues. These are considered hazardous waste, and must be disposed of at a manned recycling centre or collected by a “miljöbil” special vehicle for hazardous waste.
- Scrap metal, plumbing fixtures, pots and pans, tea light cups, electrical products and other items that are not packaging materials.
These must be disposed of at a manned recycling centre.
- Returnable cans with deposit. Should be returned using the bottle return systems/reverse vending machines in most supermarkets.

If we were to recycle all our metal bottle caps, every year we would save enough metal to produce 2,200 new car bodies.

Recycling a single metal tin saves enough energy to watch 7 hours of TV!



Residual Waste

The following should be sorted as residual waste

Included in the category of residual waste is combustible waste that is neither food waste, packaging material, nor newspaper. Residual waste is the waste that is left over once one has sorted out all the recyclables. It includes things such as

- Cigarette butts and snuff sachets
- Vacuum cleaner bags
- Cleaning waste
- Nappies, sanitary towels, and tampons
- Scrub brushes, dishcloths, mops, and toilet brushes
- Envelopes, postcards, Post-It notes
- Pens and crayons
- Folders, binders, and plastic pockets
- Dog waste bags
- Bedding from the cages of small pets
- Chewing gum
- Photos and rolls of film
- Ice cream sticks, toothpicks, toothbrushes, swabs and cotton balls
- Razors and razor blades
- Plasters and bandages

Residual waste is the waste that is left over once one has sorted out all the recyclables.





How To Do It

- ▶ Collect residual waste in a normal waste bag, and throw it in the residual waste compartment in Bin 1.
- ▶ Remember that light bulbs, electronics, and hazardous waste must never be disposed of in your waste bin.
- ▶ If you have a red subscription, you may combine your food waste with your residual waste, if you do not have a home compost system.



Batteries and lighting

In the compartment for batteries

- Small-size batteries
- Mobile phone batteries
- Rechargeable batteries
- Batteries for electric tools
- Button cell batteries

In the compartment for lighting

- Light bulbs
- Compact fluorescent bulbs
- LED bulbs
- Small fluorescent lamps
- Halogen lamps





How To Do It

- ▶ Keep your battery and lighting box in your home.
- ▶ Place used batteries and lighting in the appropriate compartment.
- ▶ When the box begins to get full, hang it inside of Bin 1 on collection day.
- ▶ After the bin has been emptied, take the box back inside. If you leave it hanging, it can cause problems the next time the bin is emptied.

If you don't have these special box, dispose of batteries and lighting at a manned recycling centre; they can also be collected by a "miljö-bil" special vehicle for hazardous waste.

Never throw these items in the waste bin!

Batteries can also be disposed of in designated bins at most recycling stations.

Batteries and lighting contain both dangerous substances and recyclable material.

Things to keep in mind prior to waste collection day

In order for us to be able to collect your waste, and to make the sanitation workers' jobs easier, it is important to remember the following.

- Place the bin(s) in an easily accessible place, i.e. on a hard, level surface free of vegetation that might hinder accessibility, and as close to the refuse collection vehicle's path as possible.
- The bin(s) should be placed with the handle side facing toward the road/place where the refuse collection vehicle stops, and no more than four metres from the property line. If you must place your bin(s) at a distance of more than four metres from the property line, you may arrange to do so in exchange for an additional fee.
- In the wintertime, the path from the refuse collection vehicle and to the bin(s) must be shovelled and salted/sanded – this includes snowbanks.
- The bin(s) may be emptied anytime between 06:00 and 20:00.
- Leave the bins out until they have been emptied.



The sanitation workers who collect your waste have a tough job. They collect and empty hundreds of bins in a single day. They navigate all sorts of roads, and drag bins across both asphalt and soft gravel paths. Come rain or shine, they do their jobs.



Contact Information

General questions concerning the collection system or fees:

Vimmerby Municipality

Vimmerby Energi & Miljö AB

0492 – 76 93 00

vimmerby.energi@vimmerby.se

Hultsfred and Högsby Municipalities

Östra Smålands Kommunalteknikförbund

0495 – 24 18 00

snaland@osk.hultsfred.se

Questions regarding waste sorting:

Vimmerby Recycling Centre: 0492 - 76 95 50

Kejsarkullen Recycling Centre: 0495 - 24 07 18

Kolsrum Recycling Centre: 0491 - 291 87

You can find answers to many frequently asked questions at www.snaland.com.



www.snåland.com