



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

Be **Responsible** and **Rethink**  
Reduce, Reuse, Recover and Recycle



It is the right thing to do!

## Start recycling at home in 4 easy steps



### Recycle on your doorstep

Kerbside collection schemes - where each household separates recyclables from wet waste. If you don't have a recycling bag or bin, call your local municipality to check that you haven't been missing out.

**www.**



### Find out **what and where** you can recycle

Plastics can be recycled. Make recycling part of your weekly supermarket trip and "drop when you shop" at supermarket recycling centres, schools or service stations. Visit [www.mywaste.co.za](http://www.mywaste.co.za) for your nearest drop-off site.



### Sort your Waste

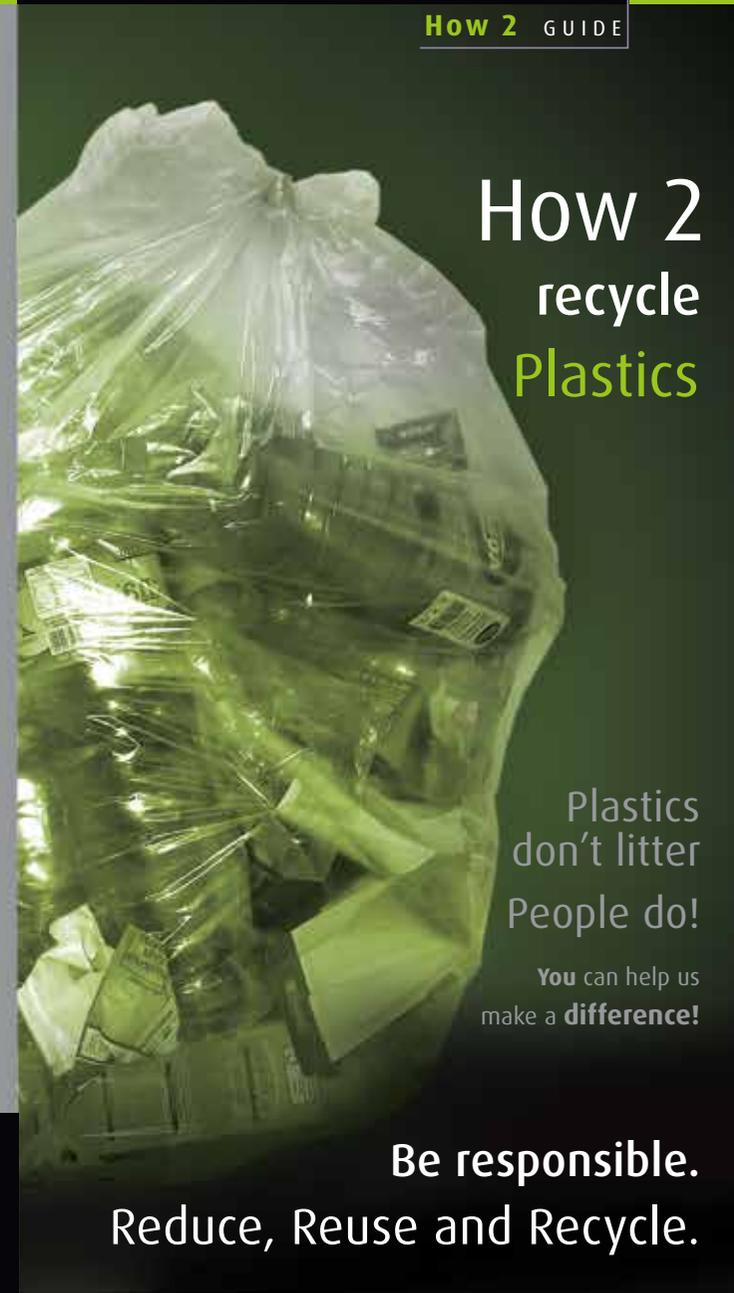
Find a handy place to store them. Encourage your household to consider whether items can be reused or recycled before they're thrown away. TIP: Some things need to be washed before you put them out for recycling - use your old washing-up water to give them a quick rinse.



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

This guide is part of the

**How 2** **SERIES** on **Plastics** and Related Issues published by **PlasticsSA**.



# How 2 recycle Plastics

Plastics don't litter People do!

You can help us make a **difference!**

**Be responsible.**  
Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

**Plastics|SA**  
[www.plasticsinfo.co.za](http://www.plasticsinfo.co.za)



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# Recycling Plastics!



## Recycling symbol

The recycling logo indicates that the product is 100% recyclable. Plastic is versatile, durable and recyclable. It can be reused without any risk to your health or the environment.



## International Polymer Identification Code

International polymer identification code used on products to identify plastics and ensure effective plastic waste sorting and recycling.



## Increased tonnages RECYCLED

According to PlasticsSA annual surveys of the plastics recycling industry in South Africa, the recycling of plastics has shown a year on year increase in the total tonnage being converted since the 2009 survey.



CLOSE TO

**4 million**  
PET BOTTLES  
are recycled in SA everyday

By recycling plastics we decrease the need for raw materials and save energy

  
an anticipated overall plastics packaging recycling rate of **35%** by **2015**

Reduce | Reuse | Recover | Recycle

Polymer Code	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	PET	PE-HD	PVC	PE-LD	PP	PS	OTHER
Product							
Recycled Into							

**76.7%** of the plastics recycled in SA originated from PACKAGING

**30%** OF ALL PACKAGING MATERIAL IS RECYCLED  
Almost **70%** of all recyclables were sourced from post-consumer sources

An overall plastics recycling rate of **18.9%** was achieved in **2011**

The formal employment figure in the recycling industry increased by **5.2%** FROM 2010

Recycling companies employ around **5000** PEOPLE  
IT IS ESTIMATED THAT **40 950** informal jobs were created in the collection industry

**Recycled plastics** are gaining a reputation for being **strong, durable** and **versatile**

## Did you Know?



**11 coke bottles = 1 pair of trousers**  
*11 recycled coke bottles make 1 pair of trousers*



**5 PET Bottles = 1 t-shirt**  
*5 recycled PET bottles make 1 T-Shirt*



**41 clamshells = 1 photoframe**  
*41 recycled polystyrene hamburger clamshells make 1 plastic picture frame*

It is the right thing to do!

