

Know Your Recycling Plastics #1-7

Have you ever taken a drink from a plastic bottle and seen a triangle symbol on the bottom with a number inside?



Do you know what the number stands for?

Did you guess that it simply means it's for recycling?

If so, then you are wrong!

THE NUMBER TELLS YOU THE CHEMICAL MAKE UP OF THE PLASTIC.

There are different kinds of plastics. Although plastics are mostly all made from petroleum, different additives are used to give plastic different properties. This little number is indicative of the type of plastic used and therefore, what process it must undergo to be recycled.

1) Polyethylene terephthalate (PET)

2) High density polyethylene (HDPE)

3) Unplasticised polyvinyl chloride (UPVC) or Plasticised polyvinyl chloride (PPVC)

4) Low density polyethylene LDPE

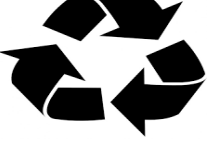
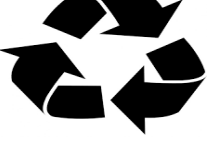
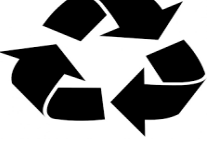


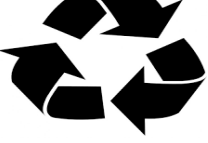
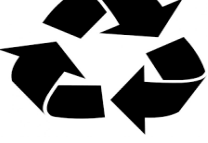
5) Polypropylene (PP)

6) Polystyrene (PS) or Expandable polystyrene (EPS)

7) Other, including nylon and acrylic

FLIP PAGE OVER FOR TABLE

Recycling Plastics #1-7

 <p>1 PETE</p>	<p>Polyethylene Terephthalate Ethylene PETE goes into soft drink. Juice, water, detergent and cleaner bottles. Also used for cooking and peanut butter jars.</p>
 <p>2 HDPE</p>	<p>High Density Polyethylene High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) goes into milk and water jugs, bleach bottles, detergent bottles, shampoo bottles, plastic bags, motor oil bottles, household cleaners and butter tubs.</p>
 <p>3 PVC</p>	<p>Polyvinyl Chloride PVC goes into window cleaner, cooking oils and detergent bottles. Also used for peanut butter jars and water jugs.</p>
 <p>4 LDPE</p>	<p>Low Density Polyethylene LDPE goes into plastic bags and grocery sacks, dry cleaning bags, flexible film packaging and some bottles.</p>
 <p>5 PP</p>	<p>Polypropylene PP goes into caps, disks, syrup bottles, yogurt tubs, straws and film packaging.</p>
 <p>6 PS</p>	<p>Polystyrene PS goes into meat trays, egg cartons, plates, cutlery, carry out containers and clear trays.</p>
 <p>7 OTHER</p>	<p>Other Includes resins not mentioned above or combinations of plastics.</p>