





# RESIN IDENTIFICATION CODES






When recycling plastics, it is important to know which types are accepted in your area. This is discerned by the number, usually on the bottom, of the item. This number is the resin identification code (RIC) and it indicates the type of plastic the item is made of. Plastics with the same RIC must be recycled together to minimize contamination and ensure that clean material can be made into new products.

In the United States, the RIC numbers range from 1-7, but not all are accepted in every recycling bin, so make sure you know which numbers are accepted in your area!

<b>RIC</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Products</b>	<b>Products Made with Recycled Material</b>
	Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET, PETE)	Beverage bottles, food jars, carpet	Fiber for carpet, fleece jackets; containers for food and beverages
	High Density Polyethylene (HDPE)	Bottles for milk, juice, shampoo, and laundry detergent; cereal box liners; plastic wood composites; wire and cable covering	Bottles for non-food items, i.e. shampoo, detergent, and cleaners; plastic lumber; floor tiles; flower pots, garden edging
	Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC)	Pipe, window frames, medical products, carpet backing, flooring	Pipe, decking, fencing, cables, traffic cones, garden hoses
	Low Density Polyethylene (LDPE)	Bags for bread, frozen food, and produce; coatings for hot and cold beverage cups; container lids; toys; squeezable bottles	Shipping envelopes, garbage can liners, furniture, compost bins, landscape timber



	Polypropylene (PP)	Containers for yogurt, butter, and takeout; medicine bottles; appliances; automotive applications and carpeting	Car battery cases, signal lights, ice scrapers, bicycle racks, garden rakes, storage bins
	Polystyrene (PS)	Food service items (cups, plates, cutlery, clamshell containers); packing peanuts; CD cases	Thermal insulation, license plate frames, foam cartons, foam packaging
	Other	Reusable water bottles, oven-baking bags, some juice and ketchup bottles	Bottles and plastic lumber applications