

What can you put in your home recycling bin?



Yes please



No thanks

Paper

- Newspapers and magazines
- Wrapping paper (except for foil/glittery paper)
- Letters and envelopes
- Paperback books
- Telephone directories
- Junk mail
- Paper bags (clean)

- Glittery wrapping paper
- Foil wrapping paper
- Tissues and kitchen roll
- Paper towels
- Shredded paper
- Hardback books
- Food or grease-stained

Cardboard

- Boxes (flatten)
- Toilet roll tubes
- Cartons (Tetrapak) without lids
- Food packaging eg cereal boxes, sandwich boxes

- Food or grease-stained cardboard eg pizza boxes
- Plastic lids from Tetrapaks

Cans

- Drinks cans – please empty
- Food tins – please rinse so no food residue remaining

- Aerosol cans – fire risk in the sorting process
- Aluminium foil

Plastic bottles

- Drinks bottles, squashed with lids on
- Cleaning fluid bottles, leave spray triggers on
- Bathroom bottles – shampoo, shower gel, leave lids on

- Loose bottle tops
- Loose spray triggers or pumps

Plastic pots, tubs, trays

- Clean plastic pots eg yogurt
- Clean plastic trays eg meat, fish
- Clean plastic tubs eg fruit punnets, margarine

- Plastic film - eg cling film, fruit punnet lids
- 'Scrunchy' plastic wrappers eg biscuit and crisp packets
- Carrier bags – recycled at supermarkets
- Stretchy plastic packaging (eg bread bags) - recycled with carrier bags at supermarkets
- Polystyrene
- Bio-plastics – may be compostable at home

Glass bottles and jars

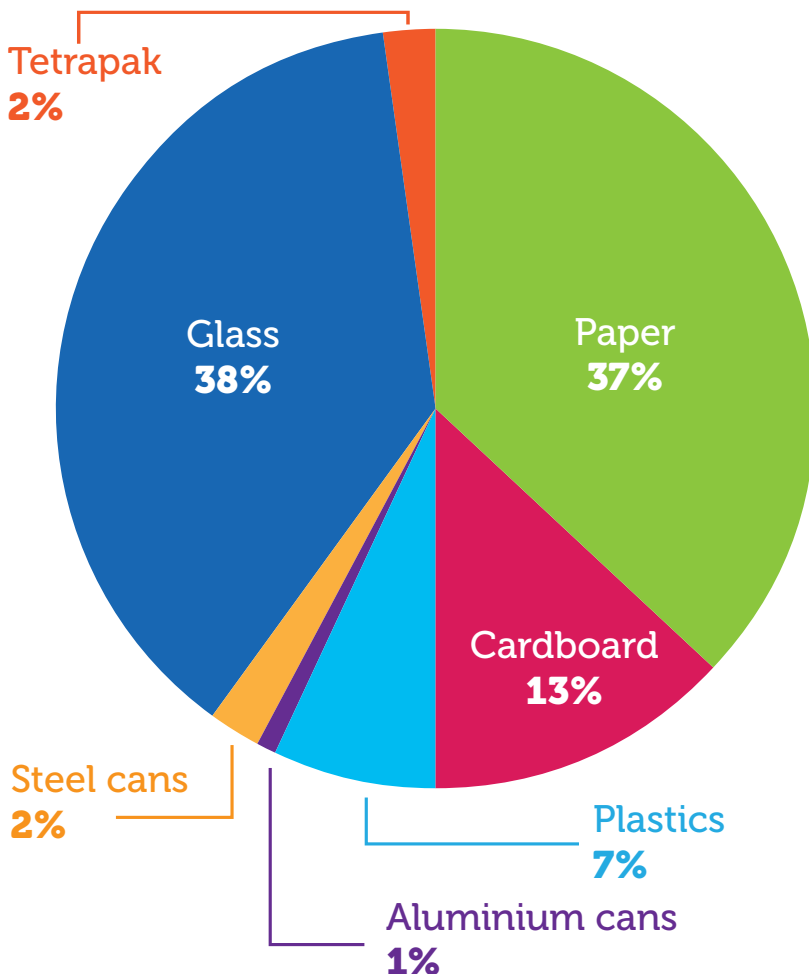
- Clean glass jars
- Clean glass bottles of any sort
- Metal jar lids

- Plastic jar lids
- Any other glass or Pyrex eg drinking glasses- melts at a different temperature

Recycling facts and figures

- The Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) **processes mixed recycling** from four London boroughs: Hammersmith & Fulham, Lambeth, Wandsworth and the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.
- The MRF can process up to **84,000 tonnes** of recyclables every year.

MRF output by material (first half of 2019/20)



The MRF can separate mixed recycling into up to **fifteen different categories** depending on available markets. For example, the plastics get separated into **five different types of plastic**.

The **value of recyclable materials fluctuates** as market conditions change in response to normal supply and demand pressures and/or wider economic and political factors.

It takes around **six minutes** for a bag of recycling to be **fully processed and sorted**.

We recycle an average of **85% of all the materials** sent to us. We are **unable to recycle the remaining 15%** as it consists of **contamination** (material that should not be placed in the recycling bags/bins). In the MRF examples of contamination include; garden waste, clinical waste, dirty nappies, wood, textiles, electrical items, general rubbish and food waste –**contamination like this damages the sorting equipment in the MRF and is it unsafe for the staff to handle it**. This percentage could be much lower if the correct materials were put out for recycling.

Food waste contamination can make the rest of your recycling **unusable**.

Any **material we cannot recycle is sent to an Energy from Waste (EfW) facility** where it is turned into electricity for the National Grid.