

# Slim your bins... and save money

A handy guide to reduce waste



# Recycling is good, but Reusing is better and Reducing is best

## Slim your rubbish bin

Creating less waste saves money for your household and local council

### Plastic bags

Reuse "bags for life" or cloth bags. Plastic bags can be recycled at many supermarkets.



### Textiles

If still in good usable condition, donate to a charity shop for reuse or hold a fun "Swishing party" swapping clothes with friends. All clean bagged textiles, clothing, shoes, belts and bags can be taken to local recycling banks and your local Household Recycling Centre (HRC).



### Disposable nappies

Choose reusable cloth nappies and reduce your nappy bill by £600 per baby! For further details about real nappies and how to save £30 from the cost of purchasing them, visit: [dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/realnappies](http://dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/realnappies)



### Polystyrene

Choose products with recyclable packaging where possible – or reuse as packing material.



### Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE)

Donate safe unwanted items to a charity shop or list for reuse [www.freecycle.org](http://www.freecycle.org) Check if broken items can be repaired, if not recycle at your nearest Household Recycling Centre (HRC).



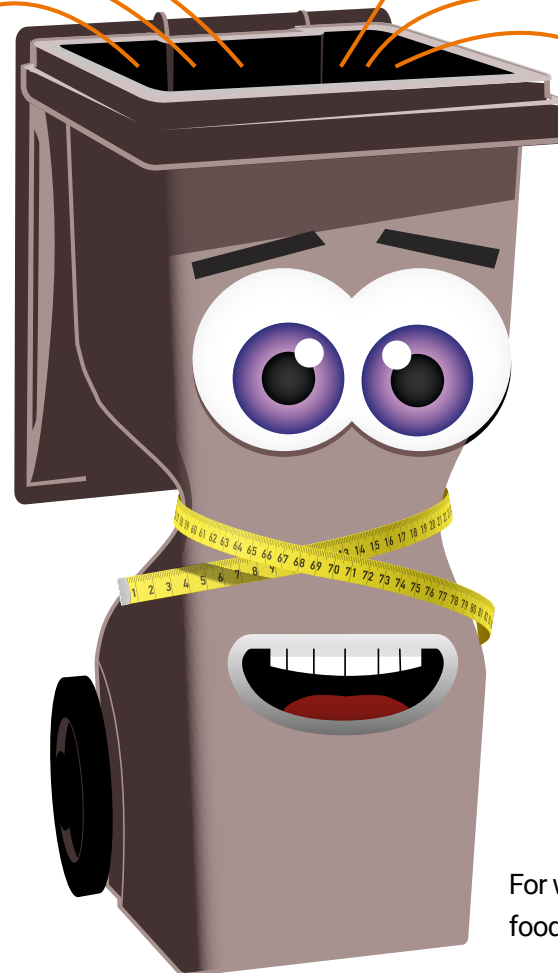
### Food waste

Please use your food waste recycling container, or learn to "shop smarter".



- **Buy only the food you need** – make a list and stick to it
- **Eat all the food you buy** – correct storage will make it last longer
- **Recycle the food that you can't eat** – e.g. egg shells, fruit peelings

For ways to reduce waste and for tasty recipes using leftover food, visit: [dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/lovefoodhatewaste](http://dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/lovefoodhatewaste)



# Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

# Slim your recycling bin

## Mail

Reduce addressed junk mail by registering for the Mail Preference Service (MPS), visit: [mpsonline.org.uk](http://mpsonline.org.uk)

For unaddressed mail try displaying a "No junk mail" notice by your letterbox or register with "Your Choice", visit: [mpsonline.org.uk/consumer/your\\_choice](http://mpsonline.org.uk/consumer/your_choice)

## Plastic bottles – all types with lids on

Reduce the number of drinks bottles you use. Consider buying a reusable drinks container and refilling with tap water and other beverages instead of buying bottled drinks. See refill Dorset: [litterfreecoastandsea.co.uk/refill-dorset](http://litterfreecoastandsea.co.uk/refill-dorset)

## Cardboard boxes (flattened)

Try to choose products with less packaging. Torn up cardboard egg boxes and tubes can all be composted.

## Plastic trays

Can be reused for growing seeds



## Plastic pots and tubs (with lids on)

Save and use to store leftovers in the refrigerator or freezer.



## Shredded paper

Small amounts can be added to your compost bin.



## Newspapers and magazines

Share with friends or offer to GP's surgeries or dental waiting rooms. Better still, create less waste by viewing online versions.



## Batteries

Return to a shop/supermarket with in-store recycling facilities or opt for rechargeable batteries.



Use your reusable bag for household batteries



# Slim your food bin



## Fruit and vegetable peelings

Try home composting; an inexpensive natural process that transforms your kitchen and garden waste into a valuable and nutrient rich food for your garden. For more information and to view the latest home composting offers, visit: [dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/composting](http://dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/composting)



## Egg shells

Can be composted or crushed and sprinkled around tender plants to deter slugs and snails.



## All cooked and uncooked food including meat and fish

Store food correctly, make good use of your freezer and love your leftovers.

Remember, most fresh food can be frozen for use at a later date.



## Tea bags and coffee grounds

Add to your home compost bin.



Please only use liners with the 'compostable' logo (left) or newspaper. No plastic bags please.

# Slim your glass bin



## Glass jars (with metal lids on)

Reuse as storage for small items or try making your own jams and chutneys with any fruit and vegetables going past their best.

## Did you know?

### Cut flowers and plants

These can be added to your home compost bin. For more information on composting and to view the latest home composting offers, visit: [dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/composting](http://dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/composting)

### Garden waste

This can be taken to your local Household Recycling Centre (HRC) for recycling or added to your home compost bin. No space for a compost bin? Consider subscribing to our garden waste service, visit: [dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/garden](http://dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/garden)

### Compostable liners

If you choose to wrap your food waste, compostable liners are now widely available in supermarkets and most local shops.



## Recycling centres

You can recycle even more at household recycling centres and local recycling banks. Find out more at [dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/recycling-centres](http://dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/recycling-centres)

# Shop smarter and reduce your waste

## Top tips

- Buy in bulk to reduce packaging and save money
- Buy refills for bathroom products
- Avoid buying disposable items – choose cloth napkins, rechargeable batteries and reusable razors
- Repair items for reuse where possible
- Reuse paper and envelopes as scrap for shopping lists
- Start a junk box for craft making and to amuse children

## To find out more

For easy ways to make the most of the food you buy and save money, visit: **[dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/lovefoodhatewaste](https://dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/lovefoodhatewaste)**

For more information on home composting and to view the latest offers, visit: **[dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/composting](https://dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/composting)**

For a replacement kitchen caddy or food bin, please see: **[dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/collection-points](https://dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/collection-points)**

Reduce junk mail by registering with the mail preference service, visit: **[mpsonline.org.uk](https://mpsonline.org.uk)**

Reduce the number of bottles by drinking tap water instead of bottled. See refill Dorset: **[litterfreecoastandsea.co.uk/refill-dorset](https://litterfreecoastandsea.co.uk/refill-dorset)**

For further details about real nappies and how to save £30 from the cost of purchasing them, visit: **[dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/realnappies](https://dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/realnappies)**

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