How to use our waste bins

Sorting your waste and using the bins right makes sure our recyclables and food scraps get turned into useful new materials and creates less landfill waste.

Make waste storage, sorting, and removal easy

Convenience is key to creating an effective recycling and compost program in your home to make it less of a chore.

Some tips to get you started:

Set up an in-home waste system.

- Purchase divided containers or stackable options.
- Try over-the-door hanging baskets.
- Hang a reusable tote on hooks.
- Utilize your closet area or space under the kitchen sink.
- Post signs or labels on your in-home waste system to remind you of what is or isn't acceptable.

Use a tote or box to carry recyclables from your home to the building's shared recycling bin.

- If you use a plastic bag, empty contents directly into the bin.

Buy a kitchen pail for your food scraps or reuse a container such as an ice cream pail.

- Choose something that fits easily under the sink to save counter space.
- **Do not use plastic bags.** Use certified compostable bags, available at all grocery stores, or paper bags.
- Rinse your kitchen pail regularly to minimize odours.

How to prepare waste properly

Preparing materials correctly helps our property keep waste costs down with our collection service.

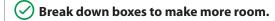| Recyclables	Compost
✓ **All recycling must be EMPTY, CLEAN and DRY.** • Pour out liquids and scrape out food bits. • Rinse out all food containers. • Remove lids and caps. ✓ **Put recyclables in the bin loose, except:** • Bundle your stretchy plastic bags and wrap. Put all bags into one bag and securely tie closed. • Bag your shredded paper. ✓ **Break down boxes to make more room.**	✓ **Put all food scraps into your kitchen pail.** Take food out of containers and packaging first. ✓ To keep your kitchen pail clean, use **compostable bags or newspaper** to line your pail. ✓ **Use the right bags for your kitchen pail.** When buying compostable bags, look for this logo on the box. COMPOSTABLE Biodegradable Products Institute | US COMPOSTING COUNCIL ✗ **Please DO NOT use plastic bags**

Quick Reference Guide

Food scraps	Recyclables	Garbage	Other items

Food scraps

Food

Food-soiled paper

Recyclables

Paper and cardboard

Plastic containers

Bundled plastic bags

Food cans and foil

Glass jars and bottles

Garbage

Foam packaging

Mixed packaging

Diapers and wipes

Plastic cutlery and straws

Lotions and toothpaste tubes

Other items

Household hazardous waste
calgary.ca/hhw

Electronics
calgary.ca/electronics

Toys and clothing

Find out more ways to donate, recycle and safely dispose of your items at
calgary.ca/whatgoeswhere

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