



# CURRENT STATUS OF PLASTIC LEGISLATION - AUGUST 2023

last updated:  
1 Aug 2023

	status	bans in effect	starting work looking at next regs	analysing consultation feedback	preparing for 2023 ban	preparing for 2023 ban	no update	no update	regs passed, preparing for 2023 ban	consultation underway	bans in effect
		ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	AUST	NZ
<b>GENERAL</b>	Items in pre-packaged food/bev products	exempt	exempt until 31 Dec 2025		exempt till 31 Dec 2025	Sep-25		exempt till 31 Dec 2025	varied		some integrated included
	Position on compostable plastic	banned	banned		varied	varied		banned	varied		varied
<b>UTENSILS</b>	Plastic straws	Jul-22	Nov-22	2025	Sep-21	Mar-21	Hobart only	Feb-23	Jul-22		Jul-23
	Plastic cutlery	Jul-21	Nov-22	2025	Sep-21	Mar-21	Hobart only	Feb-23	Jul-22		Jul-23 incl. integrated
	Plastic stirrers	Jul-22	Nov-22	2025	Sep-21	Mar-21	Hobart only	Feb-23	Jul-22		Oct-22
<b>FOODWARE (without lids)</b>	Plastic plates	Jul-23	Nov-22	2025	Sep-21	Sep-23		Feb-23	Jul-22		Jul-23 *see details
	Plastic bowls without lids	Jul-23	Nov-22	2025	Sep-21	Sep-23	Hobart only		Jul-22		Jul-23
	Plastic containers without lids				TBC	Sep-24	Hobart only		Jul-22		
	Polymer-coated paper plates	exempt till Nov-24	exempt till Nov-24	2025	exempt	exempt till Nov-24		exempt till Nov-24	Jul-22		
<b>FOODWARE (with lids)</b>	Polymer-coated paper bowls	exempt till Nov-24	exempt till Nov-24	2025	exempt	exempt till Nov-24			Jul-22		
	Plastic bowls with lids				TBC	Sep-24	Hobart only		Sep-24		
	Plastic takeaway containers with lids				TBC	Sep-24	Hobart only		Sep-24		
	Plastic lined paper cartons (eg. noodle box)					TBC	Hobart only		Sep-24		
<b>DRINKWARE</b>	Plastic lid/windows/seals for food containers					TBC			Sep-24* see details		
	Plastic beverage containers (eg. bottles)	2018	2017	2012	2018	1977	2023	2023	2020		2025
	Plastic cups for cold drinks				TBC	Sep-24	Hobart only		Oct-22		
	Plastic cups for hot drinks				TBC	Sep-24	Hobart only		Mar-24		
<b>EXPANDED POLYSTYRENE (EPS)</b>	Plastic cup lids				TBC	Sep-24	Hobart only		Mar-24		
	EPS foodware (eg clamshells)	Jul-22	Nov-22	2025	Sep-21	Mar-22		Feb-23	Jul-22	2022	Oct-22
	EPS cups	Jul-22	Nov-22	2025	Sep-21	Mar-22		Feb-23	Sep-23	2022	
	EPS trays (eg. meat, fresh produce)	Jul-23		2025	TBC	Sep-24			Jul-22 / Sep-23	2022	
	EPS multi-serve gelato container	currently exempt	currently exempt	2025	Sep-21	Sep-24		currently exempt	Jul-22	2022	
<b>OTHER FOAMED PLASTIC</b>	EPS packaging (loose fill)	Jul-23		2025	Sep-23				Sep-23	2025	
	EPS packaging (moulded*)			2025					Jul-25	2025	
<b>BAGS</b>	Expanded plastic packaging (loose fill)								Sep-23		
	Expanded plastic packaging (moulded*)								Jul-25		
	Lightweight plastic shopping bags (<36 microns)										
	Heavyweight plastic shopping bags (>36 microns)	Jan-24		2025	Reusable Std by Sep-23	Sep-24			Jul-22		
	Paper bags with plastic laminate					TBC			Jul-22		
<b>OTHER PACKAGING</b>	Fabric bags								Jul-22		
	Produce/ barrier bags (fruit & veg)					Sep-24			Mar-24		Jul-23
	Produce/ barrier bags (meat & other)				TBC	TBC					
	Plastics with 'degradable' additives	Jul-22			TBC	Mar-22			Sep-23	TBC	Oct-22
	Product packaging									2025	
	B2B packaging									2025	
	Plastic soy sauce fish					Sep-25					
	Sauce sachets				TBC		Hobart only				
Produce labels					Sep-25					Jul-23 *see details	
<b>OTHER PLASTIC ITEMS</b>	Bread tags				TBC	Sep-24					
	Polystyrene takeaway food/bev packaging										Oct-22
	PVC pre-formed food trays and containers										Oct-22
	Cotton buds with plastic shafts	Jul-22	Nov-22		Sep-23	Sep-23		Feb-23	Sep-23	voluntary code	Oct-22
	Microbeads	Jul-23	Nov-22	2025	Sep-23				Sep-23		
	Balloon releases				Sep-23				Jul-22		
	Balloon ties or sticks				TBC	TBC					
Balloons			2025								
Pizza savers					Sep-23						
Confetti					Sep-24						
Bait bags				TBC							

	Already banned		Banned soon (regs finalised)		Proposed for ban / under consultation		Design standards in effect		Proposed for design standards
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**KEY SOURCES**

- [ACT City Services](#)
- [NSW plastics ban](#)
- [Circular Economy Strategy](#)
- [5 year roadmap](#)
- [ReplacetheWaste SA](#)
- [VIC Plastics Ban](#)
- [DWER Plan for Plastics](#)
- [National Packaging Targets](#)
- [NZ Plastics Plan](#)
- [Darwin by-law](#)
- [Stage 1 ban](#)
- [2023 ban draft regs](#)
- [Hobart by-law](#)
- [Stage 1 ban](#)
- [National Waste Policy](#)
- [Stage 2 ban](#)
- [National Plastics Plan](#)