


| <div></div> | CURRENT STATUS OF PLASTIC LEGISLATION - SEPT 2025 | | | | IMPORTANT: The rules, exemptions and definitions for each state ban vary greatly. Please check each government website for details. | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|---|---|--|----------------------------|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| last updated: 1 Sept 2025 | status | bans in effect, no further bans announced. | Consultation closed, awaiting govt update. | Consultation closed, awaiting govt update. | future bans on hold | Ban rollout underway. New postponements for deli bags and produce stickers | Consultation closed, awaiting govt update. | No further bans announced | Ban rollout underway. New produce/barrier bags standard | consultation ongoing, awaiting next steps | Bans in effect. Stage 3 delayed. |
| | | ACT | NSW | NT | QLD | SA | TAS | VIC | WA | FEDERAL AUST | NZ |
| GENERAL | Position on certified compostable plastic | banned | banned except produce stickers | TBC | varied | varied, see website | TBC | banned | varied. Mostly accepted | recyclable preferred | varied |
| UTENSILS | Plastic straws | Jul-22 | Nov-22 | 2025 TBC | Sep-21 | Mar-21 | Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC | Feb-23 | Jul-22 | | Jul-23 |
| | Plastic cutlery | Jul-21 | Nov-22 | 2025 TBC | Sep-21 | Mar-21 | Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC | Feb-23 | Jul-22 | | Jul-23 incl. integrated |
| | Plastic stirrers | Jul-22 | Nov-22 | 2025 TBC | Sep-21 | Mar-21 | Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC | Feb-23 | Jul-22 | | Oct-22 |
| FOODWARE (without lids) | Plastic plates | Jul-23 | Nov-22 | 2025 TBC | Sep-21 | Sep-23 | | Feb-23 | Jul-22 | | Jul-23 *see details |
| | Plastic bowls without lids | Jul-23 | Nov-22 | 2025 TBC | Sep-21 | Sep-23 | Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC | | Jul-22 | | Jul-23 |
| | Plastic containers without lids | | end-2027 | | | Sep-24 | Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC | | Jul-22 | | |
| | Polymer-coated paper plates | exemption ends 31 Oct 2024 | exemption ends 31 Oct 2024 | 2025 TBC | exempt | exemption ends 31 Oct 2024 | TAS 2025 TBC | exemption ends 31 Oct 2024 | Jul-22 | | |
| | - cert compostable allowed? | no | no | ? | | no | | no | no | | |
| | Polymer-coated paper bowls without lids | exemption ends 31 Oct 2024 | exemption ends 31 Oct 2024 | 2025 TBC | exempt | exemption ends 31 Oct 2024 | Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC | | Jul-22 | | |
| | - cert compostable allowed? | no | no | ? | | yes | | | allowed if fibre based | | |
| FOODWARE (with lids) | Plastic bowls with lids | | end-2027 | | | Sep-24 | Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC | | Sep-24 | | |
| | Plastic takeaway containers with lids/windows/seals | | end-2027 | | | Sep-24 | Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC | | Sep-24 | | |
| | Plastic lined paper cartons (eg. noodle box) | | end-2027 | | | Sep-24 | Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC | | Sep-24 | | |
| | Plastic lid/windows/seals for food containers | | end-2027 | | | Sep-24 | Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC | | Sep-24 | | |
| | PP or PET rectangular lidded food containers | | | | | Exempt until Sep 2029 | | | Sep-24 | | |
| | Plastic lidded bowls/containers containing hot soupy food | | | | | Exempt until Mar 2026 | | | Exempt until Sept 2026 | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| OTHER FOOD PACKAGING | Condiment packaging / soy sauce fish | | label 2027, recyclable 2030 | | | Sep-25 | Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC | | | | |
| | Sauce sachets | | label 2027, recyclable 2030 | | | | Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC | | | | |
| | Non-compostable produce labels | | Ban end 2030 | | | Ban postponed | TAS 2025 TBC | | | | Postponed to Jul-28 |
| | Bread tags / similar rigid tags used to close a bag | | Ban end 2025 | | | Sep-24 | TAS 2025 TBC | | | | |
| | Polystyrene (PS) takeaway food/bev packaging | | | | | | | | | | Oct-22 |
| | PVC pre-formed food trays and containers | | | | | | | | | | Oct-22 |
| | PS and PVC food packaging (pre-packaged) | | | | | | | | | | TBC |
| | Plastic sticks for lollipops, ice-cream, foods | | Ban end 2025 | | | Sep-23 | TAS 2025 TBC | | | | |
| | Pizza savers | | Ban end 2025 | | | | | | | | |
| | Items in pre-packaged food/bev products | exempt | exemption ends 31 Dec 2024 | | exemption ends 31 Dec 2025 | exemption ends 31 Aug 2025 | Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC | exemption ends 31 Dec 2025 | varied | | some integrated included |
| DRINKWARE | Plastic beverage containers (eg. bottles) ie. CDS | 2018 | 2017 | 2012 | 2018 | 1977 | 2023 | 2023 | 2020 | | 2025 TBC |
| | Plastic beverage container lids | | tether end 2030 | | | | | | | | |
| | Plastic beverage stoppers/plugs | | TBC (see paper) | | | Sep-24 | | | | | |
| | Plastic cups for cold drinks | | end-2027 | | | Sep-24 | Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC | | Oct-22 | | |
| | Plastic cups for hot drinks | | labelling end 2027 | | | Sep-24 | Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC | | Mar-24 | | |
| | Plastic cup lids & seals | | end-2027 | | | Sep-24 | Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC | | Mar-24 | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| EXPANDED POLYSTYRENE (EPS) | EPS foodware (eg clamshells) | Jul-22 | Nov-22 | 2025 TBC | Sep-21 | Mar-22 | TAS 2025 TBC | Feb-23 | Jul-22 | 2022 | Oct-22 |
| | EPS cups | Jul-22 | Nov-22 | 2025 TBC | Sep-21 | Mar-22 | TAS 2025 TBC | Feb-23 | Sep-23 | 2022 | Oct-22 |
| | EPS trays (eg. meat, fresh produce) | Jul-23 | Ban end 2025 | 2025 TBC | | Sep-24 | TAS 2025 TBC | | Jul-22 / Sep-23 | 2022 | Oct-22 |
| | EPS multi-serve gelato container | currently exempt | exemption ends 31 Dec 2024 | 2025 TBC | Sep-21 | Sep-29 | TAS 2025 TBC | exempt | Jul-22 | 2022 | Oct-22 |
| | EPS pre-packaged food/drink (eg. noodle cups) | | exemption ends 31 Dec 2024 | | exemption ends 31 Dec 2025 | Sep-25 | TAS 2025 TBC | exemption ends 31 Dec 2025 | | | Oct-22 |
| | EPS packaging (loose fill) | Jul-23 | Ban end 2025 | 2025 TBC | Sep-23 | | TAS 2025 TBC | | Sep-23 | 2025 | |
| | EPS packaging (moulded*) | | Ban end 2025 | 2025 TBC | | | TAS 2025 TBC | | Jul-25 | 2025 | Oct-22 |
| OTHER FOAMED PLASTIC | Expanded plastic packaging (loose fill) eg. EPE, EVA, bio | | Ban end 2025 | | | | TAS 2025 TBC | | Sep-23 | | |
| | Expanded plastic packaging (moulded*) eg. EPE, EVA, bio | | Ban end 2025 | | | | TAS 2025 TBC | | Jul-25 | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| BAGS | Lightweight plastic shopping bags (<36 microns) | cert. compostable exempt | | | | cert. compostable exempt | | | | | |
| | Heavyweight plastic shopping bags (>36 microns) | Jan-24 | design std end 2025 | 2025 TBC | Reusable Std by Sep-23 | Sep-24 | TAS 2025 TBC | | Jul-22 | | Jul-19 |
| | Paper bags with plastic laminate | Jan-24 | design std end 2025 | | | Sep-24 | TAS 2025 TBC | | Jul-22 | | Jul-23 (<70um) |
| | Fabric bags | Jan-24 | | | | Sep-24 | | | Jul-22 | | |
| | Non-compostable produce bags (loose fruit, veg, nuts, confectionary) | | Unclear (see paper) | | | Sep-24 | TAS 2025 TBC | | Sep-24 plus new design std Oct-25 | | Jul-23 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Non-compostable barrier bags (unpackaged meat, seafood, dairy) | | Unclear (see paper) | | | Postponed to Sep 2027 | TAS 2025 TBC | | Oct-26* | | |
| OTHER | Plastics with 'degradable' additives | Jul-22 | Ban end 2025 | | | Mar-22 | TAS 2025 TBC | | Sep-23 | TBC | Oct-22 |
| | Intentionally added PFAS / harmful chemicals | | 2025, 2027 (see paper) | | | | | | | | |
| | Cotton buds with plastic shafts | Jul-22 | Nov-22 | | Sep-23 | Sep-23 | TAS 2025 TBC | Feb-23 | Sep-23 | | Oct-22 |
| | Plastic microbeads - personal care & cleaning rinse-off | Jul-23 | Nov-22 | 2025 TBC | Sep-23 | Sep-23 | TAS 2025 TBC | | Sep-23 | voluntary code | Jun-18 |
| | Balloon releases | | Ban end 2025 | | Sep-23 | | banned | | Jul-22 | | |
| | Balloon ties or sticks | | Ban end 2025 | | | Sep-24 | TAS 2025 TBC | | | | |
| | Plastic confetti / table scatters | | | | | Sep-24 | TAS 2025 TBC | | | | |
| | Plastic bait bags | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Cigarette butts | | TBC (see paper) | | | | | | | | |
| | Washing machine filters | | end 2027 | | | | | | | | |
| | Labelling requirements | | | | | various items | | | | | |
| | Mandated packaging design standards | | | | | | | | barrier bag std | 2025 | |
| | | | Already banned | | Banned soon (regs finalised) | | Proposed for ban / under consultation | | Design standards / CDS in effect | | Proposed for design standards / CDS |
| KEY SOURCES | How to get help: | Contact govt | Contact govt | Contact govt | Contact NRA | Contact govt | Contact govt | Contact govt | Contact NRA | Contact govt | Contact govt |
| | Government website: | ACT City Services | NSW EPA plastics bans | Circular Economy Strategy | | ReplacetheWaste SA | TAS Plastics Ban | VIC Plastics Ban | DWER Govt website | National Packaging Targets | NZ Plastics Plan |
| | Dedicated business website: | | | | QLD Plastics Ban | | | | Plastics Ban WA | | |
| | Other resources: | | 2024 Plastics Action Plan | Darwin by-law | | * See government website for detailed exemptions | Hobart by-law | | * New WA design standard for produce/barrier bags | Packaging reform | |
| | | | | | | | Recent discussion paper | | | National Waste Policy | |