



CURRENT STATUS OF PLASTIC LEGISLATION - JANUARY 2025

IMPORTANT: The rule, exemptions and definitions for each state ban vary greatly. Please check each government website for details.

last updated: 5 January 2025	status	bans in effect, no further bans announced.	Consultation closed.	expect ban plan soon	bans on hold until further consultation and harmonisation work	final regulations passed. Ban rollout underway.	Consultation closed.		ban rollout underway. New requirements for produce/barrier bags	consultation closed, awaiting next steps	Bans in effect. Stage 3 delayed likely mid-2026
		ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	FEDERAL AUST	NZ
GENERAL	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
	Position on certified compostable plastic	banned	banned except produce stickers		varied	varied. Mostly accepted		banned	varied. Mostly accepted	recyclable preferred	varied
UTENSILS	Plastic straws	Jul-22	Nov-22	2025	Sep-21	Mar-21	Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC	Feb-23	Jul-22		Jul-23
	Plastic cutlery	Jul-21	Nov-22	2025	Sep-21	Mar-21	Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC	Feb-23	Jul-22		Jul-23 incl. integrated
	Plastic stirrers	Jul-22	Nov-22	2025	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	Sep-21	Sep-21		Feb-23	Jul-22		Jul-23 *see details
	Plastic bowls without lids	Jul-23	Nov-22	2025	Sep-21	Sep-23	Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC		Jul-22		Jul-23
	Plastic containers without lids		end-2027		TBC	Sep-24	Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC		Jul-22		
	Polymer-coated paper plates	exemption ends 31 Oct 2024	exemption ends 31 Oct 2024	2025	exempt	exemption ends 31 Oct 2024	TAS 2025 TBC	exemption ends 31 Oct 2024	Jul-22		
	- cert compostable allowed?	no	no			yes		no	no		
FOODWARE (with lids)	Polymer-coated paper bowls without lids	exemption ends 31 Oct 2024	exemption ends 31 Oct 2024	2025	exempt	exemption ends 31 Oct 2024	Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC		Jul-22		
	- cert compostable allowed?	no	no			yes			allowed if fibre based		
	Plastic bowls with lids		end-2027		TBC	Sep-24	Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC		Sep-24		
	Plastic takeaway containers with lids/windows/seals		end-2027		TBC	Sep-24	Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC		Sep-24		
OTHER FOOD PACKAGING	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		
	Condiment packaging / soy sauce fish		label 2027, recyclable 2030			Sep-25	Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC				
	Sauce sachets		label 2027, recyclable 2030		TBC		Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC				
	Non-compostable produce labels		Ban end 2030			Sep-25	TAS 2025 TBC				Jul-23 see details
	Bread tags / similar rigid tags used to close a bag		Ban end 2025		TBC	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)										mid-2026 TBC
	Plastic sticks for lollipops, ice-cream, foods		Ban end 2025					TAS 2025 TBC			
DRINKWARE	Pizza savers		Ban end 2025			Sep-23	TAS 2025 TBC				
	Plastic beverage containers (eg. bottles)	2018	2017	2012	2018	1977	2023	2023	2020		2025
	Plastic beverage container lids		tether end 2030								
	Plastic beverage stoppers/plugs		TBC (see paper)				TAS 2025 TBC				
	Plastic cups for cold drinks		end-2027		TBC	Sep-24	Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC		Oct-22		
	Plastic cups for hot drinks		labelling end 2027		TBC	Sep-24	Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC		Mar-24		
EXPANDED POLYSTYRENE (EPS)	Plastic cup lids & seals		end-2027		TBC	Sep-24	Hobart ban, TAS 2025 TBC		Mar-24		
	EPS foodware (eg clamshells)	Jul-22	Nov-22	2025	Sep-21	Mar-22	TAS 2025 TBC	Feb-23	Jul-22	2022	Oct-22
	EPS cups	Jul-22	Nov-22	2025	Sep-21	Mar-22	TAS 2025 TBC	Feb-23	Sep-23	2022	
	EPS trays (eg. meat, fresh produce)	Jul-23	Ban end 2025	2025	TBC	Sep-24	TAS 2025 TBC		Jul-22 / Sep-23	2022	
	EPS multi-serve gelato container	currently exempt	exemption ends 31 Dec 2024	2025	Sep-21	Sep-24	TAS 2025 TBC	currently exempt	Jul-22	2022	
	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			
OTHER FOAMED PLASTIC	EPS packaging (loose fill)	Jul-23	Ban end 2025	2025	Sep-23		TAS 2025 TBC		Sep-23	2025	
	EPS packaging (moulded*)		Ban end 2025	2025			TAS 2025 TBC		Jul-25	2025	
	Expanded plastic packaging (loose fill) eg. EPE, EVA, bio		Ban end 2025				TAS 2025 TBC		Sep-23		
BAGS	Expanded plastic packaging (moulded*) eg. EPE, EVA, bio		Ban end 2025				TAS 2025 TBC		Jul-25		
	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	Reusable Std by Sep-23		Sep-24	TAS 2025 TBC		Jul-22	
	Paper bags with plastic laminate	Jan-24	design std end 2025				Sep-24	TAS 2025 TBC		Jul-22	
	Fabric bags	Jan-24					Sep-24			Jul-22	
	Non-compostable produce bags (fruit, veg & dry goods)		Unclear (see paper)				Sep-24	TAS 2025 TBC		Sep-24*	Jul-23
	Non-compostable barrier bags (meat & other)		Unclear (see paper)			TBC	Sep-25	TAS 2025 TBC		Sep-25*	
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	Sep-23				Sep-23	voluntary code	
	Balloon releases		Ban end 2025		Sep-23				Jul-22		
	Balloon ties or sticks		Ban end 2025				TBC	Sep-24	TAS 2025 TBC		
	Plastic confetti / table scatters					Sep-24		TAS 2025 TBC			
	Plastic bait bags				TBC						
	Cigarette butts		TBC (see paper)								
	Washing machine filters		end 2027								
Mandated packaging design standards									2025		

	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 2022](#)
- [Circular Economy Strategy](#)
- [Official ban website: ReplacetheWaste SA](#)
- [New ban discussion paper](#)
- [VIC Plastics Ban](#)
- [DWER Plan for Plastics](#)
- [National Packaging Targets](#)
- [NZ Plastics Plan](#)
- [2024 Plastics Action Plan](#)
- [Darwin by-law](#)
- [Official website for business \(NRA/DES\)](#)
- [* See government website for detailed exemptions](#)
- [Hobart by-law](#)
- [Official website for business \(NRA/DWER\)](#)
- [* New WA design standard for produce/barrier bags](#)
- [National Waste Policy](#)
- [National Plastics Plan](#)