

YOUR GUIDE

to Sandwell's recycling and waste collection services



**Recycling and non-recycling
collected alternate weeks**

**Collected
weekly**

**Collected
fortnightly**
(Subscriptions only)



www.sandwell.gov.uk/bins

RETHINK WASTE

The more waste we create, the worse it can be for the environment.

To create a cleaner Sandwell we can make small changes by

1

Reduce and prevent waste

Buy less, avoid using packaging and creating waste



2

Reuse and repair

Give things a second life by repairing and reusing items



3

Recycle

Reduce the raw materials we use by recycling items to prevent them from going to waste



4

Recover

Items are sent for incineration, although this creates energy items only have one use



5

Landfill

The last resort, extremely damaging to the environment



RECYCLING (BLUE LID) BIN

✓ What goes in

- Food tins and drink cans
- Glass bottles and jars
- Plastic bottles, tubs and food trays
- Empty aerosols
- Foil

✗ No thanks

- Paper
- Cardboard/card
- Cartons
- Nappies
- Clothes or fabrics
- Paint tins or cans
- Wrappers from crisps, biscuits or sweets
- Hard plastics like furniture or toys
- DIY, garden and chemical bottles
- Plastic bags
- Polystyrene
- Drinking glasses, pyrex and glass dishes



Recycling must be **CLEAN** and **LOOSE** (no bin bags). S

For more information including our A-Z go to www.

NEW! RECYCLING (BLUE) BAG



✓ What goes in

- Paper
- Newspapers
- Magazines
- Card
- Cardboard
- Cartons

✗ No thanks

- Plastics and packaging
- Polystyrene
- Tissues
- Greaseproof paper
- Glitter or foil wrapping paper
- Greeting cards with glitter or attachments



QUASH, CRUSH and FLATTEN items to make space in your bin.
[sandwell.gov.uk/recycleguide](https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/recycleguide) or scan the QR code above.

FOOD WASTE BIN

✓ What goes in

- Meat and fish/shellfish – raw and cooked, including bones and shells
- Egg products (including eggshells)
- Dairy
- Bread, cakes and other baked goods
- Pasta and rice
- Beans and pulses
- Fruit and vegetables (including peelings)
- Tea bags and coffee grounds
- Lard and other hard fats
- Wet and dry pet food
- Any meal leftovers



✗ No thanks

- Packaging
- Cardboard
- Foil
- Plastic film
- Glass
- Other recycling
- Garden waste
- Straw or other animal bedding



DID YOU KNOW? Your food waste is turned into energy and fertiliser

Sign up for free weekly food waste collections at:

www.sandwell.gov.uk/foodwaste

GARDEN WASTE (GREEN) BIN

✓ What goes in

- Grass cuttings
- Hedge and shrub clippings
- Plants and weeds
- Leaves, twigs and bark
- Cut flowers
- Windfalls (fallen fruit such as apples)



REMEMBER You can compost your garden and food waste at home

NON-RECYCLING (GREY) BIN

✓ What goes in

- Nappies
- Clothes or fabrics
- Wrappers from crisps, biscuits or sweets
- Hard plastics like coat hangers or toys
- Black bags
- Polystyrene
- Wipes

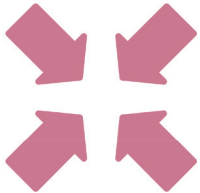
✗ No thanks

- Garden waste
- Food
- Recycling
- Batteries
- Electrical items
- Fluorescent tubes
- Light bulbs
- Building rubble



REMEMBER You can recycle batteries – put them in a clear bag on top of your recycling (blue lid) bin

REDUCE



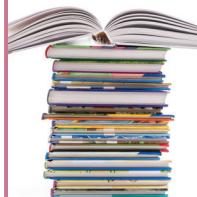
Avoid overbuying food



Cut down on single use plastics



Opt for digital receipts instead of paper



Borrow instead of buying



Buy pre-loved and reduce fast fashion purchases



Using leftovers is a great way to save time and money on lunches

REUSE



Use reusable bags



Reuse takeaway containers



Consider buying refillable water bottles



Old clothes can be donated or re-purposed into cleaning cloths



Reuse wrapping paper and gift bags



Upcycle your furniture

RECYCLE



Flatten cardboard before disposing in your recycling (blue) bag



Batteries must be recycled separately in a plastic bag on top of your recycling (blue lid) bin



Thin plastics such as crisp packets, bread bags and cling film can be recycled at most supermarkets



Separate items properly



Garden and food waste can be composted at home



Recycle plastic plant pots at garden centres

IMPORTANT CHANGES IN LAWS

The government has introduced new laws to improve recycling, reduce waste and protect the environment. Sandwell's recycling and waste collection service has been designed to comply with these laws.

All households have to recycle the same materials and separate paper and card from glass, cans and plastics. This ensures that paper and card is better quality and easier to recycle. Councils in England must also provide a separate food waste collection.

From 2028, new rules mean that if we don't reduce our non-recyclable waste, we'll face higher incineration costs. That's why it's so important to separate your waste properly.

Only items that can't be recycled should go in your non-recycling (grey) bin. If you're not sure which items to put in each bin/bag please look over the page.

We are not able to collect bins/bags if they contain incorrect items.

Got extra recycling?

You can request more than one recycling (blue) bag or a larger recycling (blue lid) bin per household. You can also take items to the tip for recycling.

Additional support

If are producing excess waste and are struggling to cope you may be eligible for additional support.

Assisted collections

If you have a disability, mobility problems or other reason you can't put your own bins out, we may be able to help you. If you already receive assisted collections, please don't worry these will continue.

For extra help or to find out more information, please visit:

www.sandwell.gov.uk/bins

or call our **Contact Centre** on **0121 368 1177**