

# Waste a Minute Video Series

## Episode 3

Alison: Hi there, in our last video, we reminded residents of the BIG 5 items that you can put in your silver recycling bin: Glass, Soft Plastics, Paper, Cardboard and Aluminium. And we talked a bit more about some typical soft plastic items that you can put in your silver recycling bin. Today we are going to cover some of the soft plastic exceptions that you can't recycle. Over to you Lisa!

Lisa: Thanks Alison, so the most common soft plastic item that you cannot recycle is cling film. This is because when it goes off to the recycling plant, the cling film goes stringy and stretches and get wrapped around the machinery. For the same reason, plastic string/net bags containing fruit also need to go in your black bin. What else Alison?

Alison: Right how about compost bags, bags of stone some bulk pet food bags? Well yes they are soft plastic, but unfortunately these heavy duty, tough, hard to tear plastics are not easily recycled so please re-use them where you can, put them in your black bin, or take them to your local Waste Recycling Centre. Lisa what other soft plastic exceptions are there?

Lisa: Well another big one to look out for is whether or not the plastic is food contaminated. If you can rinse the food off then it can be recycled, but if it is baked on, or is oily or greasy and not easily removed, then it needs to go in your black general waste bin. Food contamination is the other reason why cling film can't be recycled. Just one piece of soft plastic that is food contaminated in your silver bin can risk contaminating the whole recycle, so remember, 'If in doubt, leave it out'. Alison.

Alison: Our next video will cover Bonded Plastics in more detail, but for now, to summarise on plastic recycling today: Before you put it in your silver recycling bin ask yourself 'Is it a soft, malleable plastic? If is is, it can go in your silver bin. Is it food contaminated? If it is, and you cannot rinse it clean, that also needs to go in the black general waste bin. And like Lisa said, 'If in doubt, leave it out'!