

## WASTE ETIQUETTE MÜLL-KNIGGE




HELP PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT!  
AVOID WASTE AND SEPARATE IT PROPERLY

## RECYCLABLE MATERIALS

- +** **Plastics:** packaging, cups, containers, bags, plastic caps, and plastic film, drinking cartons (Tetra Pack) and other composite packaging  
**Vacuum bags and blister packs**  
**Metals:** packaging, cans, caps, and foil made of aluminum or tinplate, e.g., drinking cans, crisps packaging, pet food containers  
**Foam materials:** repackaging, polystyrene (foam)  
**Other recyclable items:** toys, pots, cleaning buckets made of plastic or metal
- Glass, paper and cardboard, organic waste, residual waste, and items for the recycling center  
Electric devices and batteries
- +** Packaging should be empty and free of food residues  
Do not stack items inside each other, separate individual components if possible  
Avoid using black plastic
- +** More information about recycle materials:  
 [www.recycling-funktioniert.de](http://www.recycling-funktioniert.de)


## CARDBOARD AND PAPER

- +** **Packaging made of cardboard and paper:** boxes, paper bags, egg cartons, pizza boxes  
**Printed materials:** newspapers, magazines, flyers, catalogues  
**Office supplies:** notepads, books, writing and printing paper, envelopes
- Water-resistant papers: to-go cups, drink cartons (Tetra Pack) waterproof or coated papers, baking sheets, photographs, receipts, tickets made of thermal paper  
Contaminated papers: tissues, wet wipes, paper towels, paper napkins
- +** Fold cardboard boxes flat  
Envelopes and bakery paper bags with plastic window are fine
- +** More information about paper recycling:  
 [www.berlin-recycling.de/muelltrennung/warum-muell-trennen/papierkreislauf](http://www.berlin-recycling.de/muelltrennung/warum-muell-trennen/papierkreislauf)

## GLASS

- +** **Clear glass:** transparent glass containers, beverage bottles, canning jars, perfume bottles  
**Brown glass:** brown glass containers and beverage bottles  
**Green glass:** green-tinted containers and bottles, including blue glass
- Drinking glasses, window glass, mirrors, and porcelain have a different composition and disrupt the recycling process  
Deposit bottles (Pfandflaschen) can be placed next to public trash cans, so people in need can collect and return them
- +** Color separation is essential: glass is highly recyclable, but only when sorted by color.  
To produce color-pure recycled glass, only 3 non-clear bottles are allowed per 1,000 clear glass bottles
- +** More information about glass recycling:  
 [www.muelltrennung-wirkt.de/de/recyclingkreislauf/glas/](http://www.muelltrennung-wirkt.de/de/recyclingkreislauf/glas/)


## ORGANIC WASTE

- +** **Food scraps:** leftovers, vegetable peels, spoiled food, eggshells, nutshells, citrus fruits  
**Coffee and tea:** including filters and tea bags  
**Garden waste:** leaves, grass, hay, straw, plant soil  
**Organic materials:** hair, feathers
- Hygiene products: wet wipes, condoms, cotton swabs, diapers, vacuum cleaner bags  
Packaging materials made of plastic and metal and other residual waste  
Wood, ash, sand
- +** Compostable plastic bags clog filters in composting facilities – it's better to use newspaper instead.  
Recycling that pays off: BSR garbage trucks run on biogas produced from organic waste.
- +** More information about organic waste:  
 [www.bsr.de/bioabfall-20009.php](http://www.bsr.de/bioabfall-20009.php)

## RESIDUAL WASTE

- +** **Residual waste:** Non-recyclable materials, cat and small animal litter  
**Hygiene products:** diapers, wet wipes, tissues  
**Glass shards:** window glass, drinking glasses, vases  
**Dust and vacuum cleaner bags**  
**Cigarette butts**
- Plastic and metal packaging, food waste, paper and cardboard  
When everything is sorted correctly, very little residual waste is left
- +** If you separate waste properly, there should be barely any residual waste left.  
Wrap sharp objects in newspaper to avoid injury.  
Liquid waste, like oils and cosmetics, should be brought separately to a recycling center as hazardous waste.
- +** More information about residual waste:  
 [www.trennstadt-berlin.de/muelltrennung/hausmuell.html](http://www.trennstadt-berlin.de/muelltrennung/hausmuell.html)

## RECYCLING CENTER

- +** **Bulky waste:** furniture, wood  
**Building materials**  
**Electronic devices,** cables, batteries, lithium batteries, vapes, CDs, DVDs, cassette tapes  
**Used clothing**  
Glass, paper and cardboard  
Scrap metal  
**Liquid waste** such as oils and cosmetics  
**Large quantities of garden waste**
- Commercial waste
- +** You can drop off up to three cubic meters of bulky waste free of charge at any of the 14 recycling centers in Berlin  
A pickup service is also available
- +** Dispose of bulky waste for free during BSR Kieztage in your neighborhood:  
 <https://www.bsr.de/mein-spermmuell-kieztag-30414.php>

## WHERE DOES OTHER WASTE GO?

- An overview of nearby public collection containers for glass, used clothing and shoes:  
[www.entsorgungsmoeglichkeiten.de](http://www.entsorgungsmoeglichkeiten.de)
- Hazardous waste such as medications, energy-saving lamps, LEDs, paints, household and car batteries, alkalis and acids should be disposed of separately:  
[www.bsr.de/schadstoffe-20363.php](http://www.bsr.de/schadstoffe-20363.php)
- You can find collection points for small electronic devices and batteries at drugstores and electronics retailers  
Disposing of batteries in regular household waste can cause fires
- Support a good cause by collecting bottle caps with the ALLES IM FLUSS initiative!  
[www.allesimfluss.berlin/kronkorken](http://www.allesimfluss.berlin/kronkorken)

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Join us in our mission to reduce waste:  
sort it, recycle it, and protect  
the environment!



Learn more about recycling and reducing waste:  
[www.wir-berlin.org/muell-knigge](http://www.wir-berlin.org/muell-knigge)

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