

Plastic, Degradable, Biodegradable, Compostable: Decode the Lingo and Get it Sorted

Compostable bags are made of 100% plant materials and break down during the commercial composting process. These are the only bags that can be accepted through our green organics bin service.

While biodegradable bags break down faster than regular plastic bags, they still take many decades to disappear and will contaminate your green organics bin.

Organics collected in plastic, degradable or biodegradable bags will not be accepted through our green bin service. Plastic bags, degradable or biodegradable bags can only be disposed of in your red landfill bin or taken to RedCycle soft plastics collection participating supermarkets.

You can also use newspaper, paper towel or nothing at all to line your kitchen caddy.

You can buy compostable bags from a range of local retail outlets and online. Look for the AS 4736 certification and seedling logo to identify compostable bags. Compostable bags are not necessarily always green in colour which is why it is important to look for the AS4736 certification and logo. Sometimes compostable bags will also have the home compostable logo on them. These are fine to go into the green bin.



Online options include:

- Biobag World: <https://biobagworld.com.au/>
- Biotuff: <https://biotuff.com.au/>
- Cardia Bioproducts: <https://cardiabioproducts.com/>
- Compost a Pak: <https://compostapak.com.au/>
- Source Separation Systems: <https://sourceseparationsystems.com.au/>

If you require larger sized compostable bags for a larger bin or your 240L wheelie bin you can purchase these from local retail outlets or online.

Note that some local supermarkets have started selling 'plant based bags' (see below for examples). These are not accepted through our green bin service as only a portion (usually 20 to 60%) of these bags are plant based material. The rest is still made up of plastic. It is best to look for the AS 4736 certification and seedling logo to identify the right kind of bags rather than rely on wording alone as there is a lot of misleading products out there.

Example of using newspaper instead of a compostable bag:



DO NOT PUT IN THE GREEN BIN



OK FOR THE GREEN BIN

