

GLASS



THE FACTS ABOUT RECYCLING GLASS



The three main ingredients in glass are sand, soda ash and limestone. In Australia, most glass also contains

40-70%
recycled glass.



Glass accounts for **12% of the rubbish** collected on Clean Up Australia Day each year.

In 2012, Queensland generated

99,000

tonnes of glass and recycled 79,000 tonnes.

As little as 25 grams of heat treated glass per tonne can cause recycling to be rejected and sent to landfill.

Glass is **infinitely** recyclable.

Australians recycle almost **1 million tonnes** of glass every year, which means around **3.8 billion glass bottles** are diverted from landfill.

WHY RECYCLE GLASS?

When compared to other materials that generally go to landfill, glass takes the longest time to break down, requiring **1000 years** to decompose.

It takes as little as

30 days

for a recycled glass bottle to leave your kitchen recycling bin and appear on a store shelf as a new glass container.

The energy saved by recycling a single bottle could **light a 15-watt low energy light bulb for 24 hours.**



Recycling glass rather than using raw materials uses

75%

less energy.

Recycling one tonne of old glass saves energy equal to approximately

135
litres of oil.

12.5 kilograms of air pollution are produced for every tonne of new glass produced. By recycling glass we reduce that pollution by **14-20%.**

IF IN DOUBT, CHECK IT OUT
www.townsville.qld.gov.au
1300 878 001



WHAT HAPPENS TO GLASS?



DID YOU KNOW?

The same glass can be recycled a million times over to produce bottles and jars of the same high quality.

Of the glass recycled in Australia, 85% is made back into glass containers.

Manufacturers today are making lighter glass bottles in a bid to conserve resources. In 1986 a 'stubby' weighed 260g, today it is just 186g.

You do not need to remove labels from glass before recycling.

Buy in bulk. For example, a 500g bottle of olive oil contains less glass than two 250g bottles.



NEVER RECYCLE:

Heat treated glass, including Pyrex, drink ware, ceramics, plate glass (window panes), oven proof glass, opaque glass, light globes and mirrors.