



CURRENT STATUS OF PLASTIC LEGISLATION - JUNE 2023

last updated:
1 June 2023

status		REGS PASSED	starting work looking at next regs	analysing consultation feedback	preparing regs for 2023 ban	preparing regs for 2023 ban	no update	no update	regs passed, preparing more resources and guidance	EMM meeting soon	next ban commences 1 July 2023
		ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	AUST	NZ
GENERAL	Items in pre-packaged food/bev products	exempt	exempt		exempt	Sep-25		exempt till Jan 2026	varied		
	Position on compostable plastic	banned	banned		recognise AU cert.	varied		banned	varied		
UTENSILS	Plastic straws	Jul-22	Nov-22	2025	Sep-21	Mar-21	Hobart only	Feb-23	Jul-22		Jul-23
	Plastic cutlery	Jul-21	Nov-22	2025	Sep-21	Mar-21	Hobart only	Feb-23	Jul-22		Jul-23
	Plastic stirrers	Jul-22	Nov-22	2025	Sep-21	Mar-21	Hobart only	Feb-23	Jul-22		Oct-22
FOODWARE (without lids)	Plastic plates	Jul-23	Nov-22	2025	Sep-21	Sep-23		Feb-23	Jul-22		Jul-23 *see details
	Plastic bowls without lids	Jul-23	Nov-22	2025	Sep-21	Sep-23	Hobart only		Jul-22		Jul-23
	Plastic containers without lids				TBC	Sep-24	Hobart only		Jul-22		
	Polymer-coated paper plates	exempt till Nov-24	exempt till Nov-24	2025	exempt	exempt till Nov-24		exempt till Nov-24	Jul-22		
	Polymer-coated paper bowls	exempt till Nov-24	exempt till Nov-24	2025	exempt	exempt till Nov-24			Jul-22		
FOODWARE (with lids)	Plastic bowls with lids				TBC	Sep-24	Hobart only		Sep-24		
	Plastic takeaway containers with lids				TBC	Sep-24	Hobart only		Sep-24		
	Plastic lined paper cartons (eg. noodle box)					TBC	Hobart only		Sep-24		
	Plastic windows/seals for food containers					TBC			Sep-24* see details		
DRINKWARE	Plastic beverage containers (eg. bottles)	2018	2017	2012	2018	1977	2023	2023	2020		2025
	Plastic cups for cold drinks				TBC	Sep-24	Hobart only		Oct-22		
	Plastic cups for hot drinks				TBC	Sep-24	Hobart only		Mar-24		
	Plastic cup lids				TBC	Sep-24	Hobart only		Mar-24		
EXPANDED POLYSTYRENE (EPS)	EPS foodware (eg. clamshells)	Jul-22	Nov-22	2025	Sep-21	Mar-22		Feb-23	Jul-22	2022	Oct-22
	EPS cups	Jul-22	Nov-22	2025	Sep-21	Mar-22		Feb-23	Sep-23	2022	
	EPS trays (eg. meat, fresh produce)	Jul-23		2025	TBC	Sep-24			Jul-22 / Sep-23	2022	
	EPS multi-serve gelato container	currently exempt	currently exempt	2025	Sep-21	Sep-24		currently exempt	Jul-22	2022	
	EPS packaging (loose fill)	Jul-23		2025	Sep-23				Sep-23	2025	
	EPS packaging (moulded*)			2025					Jul-25	2025	
OTHER FOAMED PLASTIC	Expanded plastic packaging (loose fill)								Sep-23		
	Expanded plastic packaging (moulded*)								Jul-25		
BAGS	Lightweight plastic shopping bags (<36 microns)										
	Heavyweight plastic shopping bags (>36 microns)	Jan-24		2025	Reusable Std by Sep-23	Sep-24			Jul-22		
	Paper bags with plastic laminate					TBC			Jul-22		
	Fabric bags								Jul-22		
	Produce/ barrier bags (fruit & veg)					Sep-24			Mar-24		Jul-23
OTHER PACKAGING	Produce/ barrier bags (meat & other)				TBC	TBC					
	Plastics with 'degradable' additives	Jul-22			TBC	Mar-22			Sep-23	TBC	Oct-22
	Product packaging									2025	
	B2B packaging									2025	
	Plastic soy sauce fish					Sep-25					
	Sauce sachets				TBC		Hobart only				
	Produce labels					Sep-25					Jul-23 *see details
	Bread tags				TBC	Sep-24					
OTHER PLASTIC ITEMS	Polystyrene takeaway food/bev packaging										Oct-22
	PVC pre-formed food trays and containers										Oct-22
	Cotton buds with plastic shafts	Jul-22	Nov-22		Sep-23	Sep-23		Feb-23	Sep-23		Oct-22
	Microbeads	Jul-23	Nov-22	2025	Sep-23				Sep-23	voluntary code	
	Balloon releases				Sep-23				Jul-22		
	Balloon ties or sticks				TBC	TBC					
	Balloons			2025							
Pizza savers					Sep-23						
Confetti					Sep-24						
Bait bags				TBC							

	Already banned	Banned soon (regs finalised)	Proposed for ban / under consultation	Design standards in effect	Proposed for design standards
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KEY SOURCES	ACT City Services	NSW plastics ban	Circular Economy Strategy	5 year roadmap	ReplacetheWaste SA	VIC Plastics Ban	DWER Plan for Plastics	National Packaging Targets	NZ Plastics Plan
			Darwin by-law	Stage 1 ban	2023 ban draft regs	Hobart by-law	Stage 1 ban	National Waste Policy	
							Stage 2 ban	National Plastics Plan	