



CURRENT STATUS OF PLASTIC LEGISLATION - FEB 2023

last updated: 24 February 2023

[AWAITING REGULATIONS >](#)

DRAFT REGS FOR 2023 BAN RELEASED >

REGULATIONS PASSED 24 FEB >

		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/bowls		exempt till Nov-24	2025	exempt	exempt till Nov-24		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	Jul-23			TBC	Sep-24	Hobart only		Sep-24		
	Plastic lined paper cartons (eg. noodle box)					TBC	Hobart only		Sep-24		
	Plastic windows in paper food containers					TBC			Sep-24*		
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	2025	
OTHER FOAMED PLASTIC	EPS packaging (moulded*)	Jul-23		2025					Jul-25	2025	
	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)	Jul-23		2025	Reusable Std by Sep-23	Sep-24			Jul-22		
	Paper bags with plastic laminate				Reusable Std by Sep-23	TBC			Jul-22		
	Fabric bags				Reusable Std by Sep-23				Jul-22		
	Produce/ barrier bags (fruit & veg)	TBC			TBC	Sep-24			Mar-24		Jul-23
OTHER PACKAGING	Produce/ barrier bags (meat & other)	TBC			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					
	Polystyrene takeaway food/bev packaging										Oct-22
	PVC pre-formed food trays and containers										Oct-22
OTHER PLASTIC ITEMS	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	TBC				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 regs](#)
- [Hobart by-law](#)
- [Stage 1 ban](#)
- [National Waste Policy](#)
- [Stage 2 ban](#)
- [National Plastics Plan](#)