

## Important Notice from Shibuya City

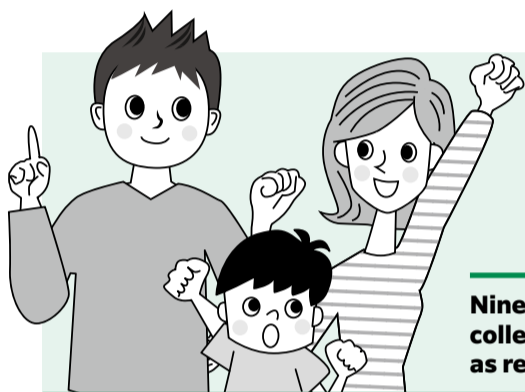
Starting in July 2022

# The classification and collection method of “plastic items” will change throughout Shibuya City.

Disposal method of “plastic items” will change.



Plastic items that are currently collected as combustible waste will be collected as recyclables.



Nine items will be collected in Shibuya as recyclables:

- Newspaper
- Magazines
- Cardboard
- Glass bottles
- Cans
- PET bottles
- Spray cans, cassette gas cylinders
- Fluorescent lights
- Plastic items

Plastic items that will be collected as recyclables	Disposal method
<div style="border: 2px solid #008000; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; display: inline-block; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>Dispose of in a transparent or semitransparent bag.</p> </div> <p><b>Plastic items</b> (roughly 30 cm or less on every side)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Plastic that was used to hold (containers) or wrap (packaging) products and is no longer needed after the products inside are removed (used).</li> <li>● Other plastics</li> </ul>	<p>Put items with the ♻️ mark and other plastic products together in one bag for disposal.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">   </div> <p>Rinse plastic containers lightly with water to remove any grime and then place them in a transparent or semitransparent bag for disposal.</p>
Plastic items collected (examples)	
 <p>Containers for cup noodles, bento and eggs</p>	 <p>Wrappings and pouches for snacks and retort foods, etc.</p>
 <p>Shampoo and detergent bottles and tubes</p>	 <p>Plastic stationery items such as ballpoint pens and rulers</p>
 <p>CDs, DVDs, videotapes, cassette tapes, etc.</p>	 <p>Plastic wrap, plastic bag, PET bottle caps, plastic containers, plastic hangers (even if the hooks are metal), other plastic items</p>

Note: Excludes items that cannot be washed clean, lighters, mobile batteries, syringes used in home medical care, etc.

## Items that are not collected (examples)

<p><b>Containers that cannot be cleaned</b></p>  <p>Dispose of as combustible waste.</p>	<p><b>Plastic umbrellas, Razors</b></p>  <p>Dispose of as incombustible waste.</p>	<p><b>Syringes used in home medical care</b></p>  <p>Contact a medical institution or the Waste Collection Office.</p>	<p><b>Lighters</b></p>  <p>Use the contents completely, place in a bag, label the bag “きけん (dangerous),” and dispose of as incombustible waste.</p>	<p><b>Mobile batteries</b></p>  <p>Bring them to a collection box located at a retailer or the like.</p>
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## Plastic sorting FAQ


**Q Can I recycle plastic containers that are dirty even after rinsing with water?**

**A Dispose of as combustible waste.**

Since all plastic items are disposed of in a single bag, this is to prevent the stains from sticking to the other plastic items, which may prevent the items from being recycled.

**Q Can I dispose of PET bottles in the same bag as other plastic items?**

**A PET bottles are collected separately.**

Put PET bottles with the  mark in a transparent or semitransparent bag for disposal. Since PET bottles are brought to a different facility than other plastic items are, be sure to dispose of them in a separate bag.

Dispose of dirty PET bottles as combustible waste.

**Q How are the collected plastic items recycled?**

**A At the intermediate processing facility, collected plastic items are unbagged and sorted into those with the  mark and other items.**

The sorted materials can be recycled into plastic products according to their properties, or be processed into alternative fuels to be used as an energy source instead of coal.

**Q Are there plastic items that cannot be disposed of as recyclables?**

**A Items not suitable for recycling (prohibited items) include lighters and batteries.**

Lighters and batteries may ignite when loaded into the collection vehicle and cause a vehicle fire. Always be sure to use up the contents of lighters, place them in a bag, label the bag “きけん (dangerous),” and dispose of them as incombustible waste. Dispose of dry-cell batteries as incombustible waste. Bring mobile batteries to the collection box located at retailers and the like.

**Q Are there any size restrictions?**

**A Only items that are roughly 30 cm or less on every side are collected.** Dispose of items larger than this as large-sized waste.

**Q Should I remove the paper label (nutritional facts) from plastics before disposal?**

**A If the label can be easily removed, take it off and dispose of the rest as plastic waste.** If it is difficult to remove, you can dispose of the item as-is.

**Q Can PET bottles be disposed of together with their bottle caps and labels?**

**A No.** As in the past, PET bottles should be disposed of as PET bottles while caps and labels should be disposed of as plastic waste.

**Q How should I disposed of items such as potato chip bags that contain both plastic and aluminum?**

**A Dispose of them as plastic waste.**

**Q Can the plastic used to wrap packages of meat or fish that I purchase at supermarkets and the plastic bags that contain them be disposed of as plastic waste?**

**A Yes.** Dispose of both items as plastic waste.

**Q Can I dispose of meat and fish trays that cannot be cleaned of oils or juices as-is?**

**A Since plastic items cannot be recycled if the stains or odor transfer onto them, rinse lightly with water and dispose of them as plastic waste.**

**Q Does a bag have to be transparent?**

**A Semitransparent bags like the ones currently used for combustible waste and incombustible waste are acceptable.** It does not have to be transparent if the contents can be identified. However, black plastic bags cannot be used.

**Q Are containers or nets for plastic disposal available for rental?**

**A There are currently no plans for rentals (as of July 2022).**

Since some light plastic items can be blown away by winds, place all plastic items in the same bag when disposing of them at the collection site. If the wind might blow the waste away, use the anti-crow nets available for rental.

**Q To what extent can items that contain metal parts be collected as recyclables?**

**A For composite products, make a decision based on which material the item is mostly made of.**

**Q When will plastics be collected as recyclables?**

**A The new system begins on the resource collection day on July 1.**

## Reason for separate collection of plastics



Various environmental problems related to plastics such as marine pollution and petroleum depletion are attracting attention worldwide. In addition, greenhouse gases emitted when processing plastic as waste and the shortage of landfill sites have been cited as issues that must be resolved. In Japan and overseas, reducing the use of plastic and using plastic more effectively are being pursued to solve these issues.

To maintain an environment that does not place a burden on future generations, the city is taking the initiative in collecting plastics from households as recyclable resources instead of processing of them as waste. By effectively using plastic as recyclable resources, we aim to reduce the amount of waste and extend the life of final disposal sites, as well as to reduce the burden on the global environment by reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

## Caution



**Do not dispose of batteries (dry cell, mobile battery, etc.), lighters, razors, or needles used in home medical care as plastic wastes.**



- Batteries (dry cell, mobile battery, etc.) may cause accidental fires due to short circuits during the sorting process.
- If razors or the like are mixed in with other plastics, they may injure workers performing collection and sorting tasks. In addition, **DO NOT** dispose of needles, since they may puncture the hands or other parts of a worker's body.
- If you double- or triple-bag plastic items for disposal, it will complicate the unbagging and sorting process at the intermediate processing facility. Please put them all directly into one transparent or semitransparent bag.

The information in this issue is for residents who put out their recyclables and waste for pickup by the Waste Collection Office. This does not apply to businesses that request collection, transportation and disposal of recyclables and waste by licensed private waste collection and transportation companies.

**Inquiries**

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