



CURRENT STATUS OF PLASTIC LEGISLATION - MAY 2024

last updated: 24 May 2024		status	bans in effect	new discussion paper closed 4 feb 2024	expect ban plan soon	roadmap consultation expected soon	final regulations passed	no update, expect ban announcement soon	plastic lined plate exemption ends soon	ban rollout underway	consultation underway, regulation of packaging expected by 2025	bans in effect
		ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	AUST	NZ	
GENERAL	Items in pre-packaged food/bev products	exempt	exempt until 31 Dec 2024			Sep-25		exempt till 31 Dec 2025	varied		some integrated included	
	Position on certified compostable plastic	banned	banned		varied			banned	varied		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 incl. integrated	
	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-21		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 (see paper)		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 (see paper)		TBC	Sep-24	Hobart only		Sep-24			
	Plastic takeaway containers with lids/windows/seals		TBC (see paper)		TBC	Sep-24	Hobart only		Sep-24			
	Plastic lined paper cartons (eg. noodle box)		TBC (see paper)			Sep-24	Hobart only		Sep-24			
	Plastic lid/windows/seals for food containers		TBC (see paper)			Sep-24			Sep-24* see details			
OTHER FOOD PACKAGING	Condiment packaging / soy sauce fish		TBC (see paper)			Sep-25						
	Sauce sachets		TBC (see paper)		TBC		Hobart only					
	Non-compostable produce labels		TBC (see paper)			Sep-25					Jul-23 *see details	
	Bread tags / similar rigid tags used to close a bag		TBC (see paper)		TBC	Sep-24						
	Polystyrene (PS) takeaway food/bev packaging										Oct-22	
	PVC pre-formed food trays and containers										Oct-22	
	PS and PVC food packaging (pre-packaged)										2025	
	Plastic sticks for lollipops, ice-cream, foods		TBC (see paper)									
	Pizza savers		TBC (see paper)			Sep-23						
	DRINKWARE	Plastic beverage containers (eg. bottles)	2018	2017	2012	2018	1977	2023	2023	2020		2025
Plastic beverage container lids			TBC (see paper)									
Plastic beverage stoppers/plugs			TBC (see paper)			Sep-24						
Plastic cups for cold drinks			TBC (see paper)		TBC	Sep-24	Hobart only		Oct-22			
Plastic cups for hot drinks			TBC (see paper)		TBC	Sep-24	Hobart only		Mar-24			
Plastic cup lids & seals			TBC (see paper)		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	TBC (see paper)	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 pre-packaged containers (eg. noodle cups)					Sep-25						
	EPS packaging (loose fill)	Jul-23	TBC (see paper)	2025	Sep-23				Sep-23	2025		
OTHER FOAMED PLASTIC	Expanded plastic packaging (loose fill) eg. EPE, EVA, bio								Jul-25	2025		
	Expanded plastic packaging (moulded*) eg. EPE, EVA, bio								Sep-23			
BAGS	Lightweight plastic shopping bags (<36 microns)	cert. compostable exempt				cert. compostable exempt						
	Heavyweight plastic shopping bags (>36 microns)	Jan-24	TBC (see paper)	2025	Reusable Std by Sep-23	Sep-24			Jul-22			
	Paper bags with plastic laminate	Jan-24	TBC (see paper)			Sep-24			Jul-22			
	Fabric bags	Jan-24				Sep-24			Jul-22			
	Non-compostable produce bags (fruit, veg & dry goods)		TBC (see paper)			Sep-24			Sep-24		Jul-23	
	Non-compostable barrier bags (meat & other)		TBC (see paper)		TBC	Sep-25			Sep-24			
OTHER	Plastics with 'degradable' additives	Jul-22	TBC (see paper)		TBC	Mar-22			Sep-23	TBC	Oct-22	
	Intentionally added PFAS / harmful chemicals		TBC (see paper)									
	Cotton buds with plastic shafts	Jul-22	Nov-22		Sep-23	Sep-23		Feb-23	Sep-23		Oct-22	
	Plastic microbeads - personal care & cleaning rinse-off	Jul-23	Nov-22	2025	Sep-23				Sep-23	voluntary code		
	Balloon releases		TBC (see paper)		Sep-23				Jul-22			
	Balloon ties or sticks		TBC (see paper)		TBC	Sep-24						
	Plastic confetti / table scatters					Sep-24						
	Plastic bait bags				TBC							
	Cigarette butts		Date TBC (see paper)									
	Washing machine filters		Date TBC (see paper)									
Mandated packaging design standards									2025			

	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 2022 2023 Discussion Paper	Circular Economy Strategy Darwin by-law	5 year roadmap Official website for business (NRA/DES)	ReplacetheWaste SA	Hobart by-law	VIC Plastics Ban	DWER Plan for Plastics Official website for business (NRA/DWER)	National Packaging Targets National Waste Policy National Plastics Plan	NZ Plastics Plan
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