

Steel recycling facts



Did you know that steel can be recycled infinitely without losing any of its quality?

Steel is an alloy of iron and carbon. It can contain small quantities of silicon, phosphorus, sulphur and oxygen. Iron is the fourth most abundant element making up around 5% of the earth's crust. It is extracted by surface mining.

Once collected and delivered to EnviroSort, steel tins and cans are separated from your other recyclables by **magnets**, which carry them along until the current is interrupted and they are dropped into the steel bunker. When this bunker is full, the contents are baled, ready to be sent to reprocessors in the U.K.

Recycling one tonne of steel saves 1.5 tonnes of iron ore and reduces CO₂ emissions by 80%. Recycling steel also ensures fewer areas of the planet are disturbed by mining.

At EnviroSort last year, we recycled over 2,407 tonnes of recycled steel, that's saving 3,610 tonnes of iron ore and 3658 tonnes of CO₂.



What can't I recycle in kerbside collection and why?



Dirty tins with food waste *

These contaminate the recycling, particularly paper as any food residue is not able to be removed. Please rinse and allow to dry.

Oil cans and paint tins *

Please do not empty/wash out these items down the drain in order to recycle them as the contents are classed as toxic and could pollute the water supply.

No appliances such as kettles, sandwich toasters, toasters, microwaves etc. **

There are too many other components to separate. These items can go into the appliance container at your Household Recycling Centre/HRC.

Gas bottles and canisters **

These pressurised containers should never be placed in the green bin or the black bin.

Other metals*

Other metal items such as coat hangers, pipes, plates, toys, tools, table legs, cutlery, saucepans, pet bowls etc cannot be recycled via your green bin.

These items have additives and coating which are contaminants. For example, stainless steel can contain up to 30% chromium, which would be classed as a contaminant when recycling steel cans.

In addition, coat hangers, cutlery and pipes may jam our machinery and cause injuries to staff.

Some may be accepted by charity shops or if not, need to be placed into the metal container at your Household Recycling Centre.

Needles and syringes **

Sometimes called "sharps". These sharp items are classed as clinical/medical waste and cannot be placed into your green bin as they are dangerous to staff working in the recycling centre.

Knives and pins **

These sharp items may cause injuries to staff working in the recycling centre. They can be secured and labelled then placed in the metal container at your Household Recycling Centre.

*** All items unsuitable for the green bin which cannot be reused or recycled must be placed in your black bin.**

**** It is a person's own responsibility to dispose of these items safely and responsibly. They should not go into the green bin or into the black bin under any circumstances. For needles and syringes etc. check with your G.P. for advice.**

EnviroSort

Domestic green bin recycling across Herefordshire and Worcestershire

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What can I recycle in my green bin?



Food tins/cans
Empty aerosol cans i.e. deodorant
Pet food tins/cans
Sweet tins
Biscuit tins
Metal lids
Drinks cans

Did you know?

You can leave the labels on.
You can push the lid inside the can/tin.

Please don't squash cans, tins or aerosols. They need to remain 3D or they may get mistaken as 2D items and get sorted with paper, card and cartons.

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