

Know Your Plastics



PET

Polyethylene Terephthalate

Releases endocrine disrupting chemicals like acetaldehyde over time, as well as toxic antimony, use once only.

Most commonly made into polyester fibres, also used in bottles for water or soda



PE-HD

Polyethylene (high density)

Additives & softeners used in this plastic have never been tested for safety. Do you feel lucky?

Milk & detergent bottles, bottle caps, food storage containers, plastic bags and even plastic surgery



PVC

Polyvinylchloride

The most toxic plastic, leaching phthalates, carcinogens, dioxins & more, linked to reproductive problems, diabetes, organ toxicity and cancers.

Water pipes, siding, signs, insulation, clothing, furniture, pleather, shower curtains and yes, even toys



PE-LD

Polyethylene (low density)

Relatively chemically non-reactive, these plastics degrade very slowly and present a burden to the environment for centuries.

Laminates, disk drives, snap on lids, six pack rings, playground slides and plastic wraps



PP

Polypropylene

Additives & softeners used in this plastic have never been tested for safety. Do you feel lucky?

Packaging, textiles, carpets, stationary, laboratory & medical equipment, molded shapes & diapers



PS

Polystyrene

These plastics leach extremely toxic brominated flame retardants over their entire lifespan.

Packaging, foam drink cups, insulation, rigid shapes like DVD cases or frames, and packing peanuts



O

Bisphenol A and others

Bisphenol A mimics the effects of the hormone estrogen and is linked to infertility & developmental damage.

A catch-all category for all other plastic types, includes bioplastics & multi layered resins, toxic bisphenol A may also be in other plastics