


## Decision tree Recycle Check for Flexible Plastic Packaging

Collecting	A: <u>Is the packaging made of flexible plastic?</u>	No	<p>This Recycle Check applies only to flexible plastic packaging. Click <a href="#">here</a> for the Recycle Check for Rigid Plastic Packaging</p> <p>Packaging sorted with residual waste, such as nets, medical product packaging and small chemical waste fall outside the scope of this Recycle Check.</p>	No PMD
	Yes	B: <u>Should the packaging be sorted with residual waste?</u>		
Disruptors	<u>1. Is the packaging free of oxo-degradable material?</u>	No	<p>Oxo-degradable plastics disrupt the recycling process.</p> <p>PVC and PVdC disrupt the recycling of other plastics.</p> <p>Elastomers, such as silicones, disrupt the plastic recycling process.</p> <p>Non-plastic layers disrupt the plastic recycling process.</p>	Not desirable or non-recyclable
	Yes	<u>2. Is the packaging free of PVC or PVdC?</u>		
	Yes	<u>3. Is the packaging free of elastomers, such as silicone?</u>		
	Yes	<u>4. Is the packaging free of non-plastic layers?</u>		
Sorting	<u>5. Is the packaging larger than 40x40mm?</u>	No	<p>Undersized packaging is currently not sorted for recycling and ends up being incinerated.</p> <p>Flexible packaging with dimensions between 40x40mm and A4 is not always sorted by material and ends up in the mixed stream.</p> <p>Flexible packaging with rigid components is difficult to sort, and can hinder the recycling of flexible bottles.</p> <p>Flexible packaging made from other plastics (PP, PET, PA, EPP, PS and PLA), is currently sub-optimally recyclable. These materials end up in the mixed stream.</p>	Limited recyclability
	Yes	<u>6. Is the packaging larger than A4 size?</u>		
	Yes	<u>7. Is the packaging free of rigid components?</u>		
Recycling	<u>8. Does the packaging consist entirely of PE?</u>	No	<p>Additions such as barriers, coatings and/or fillers can hinder recycling.</p> <p>Labels made from a material other than the packaging hinder recycling by combining different materials.</p> <p>Non-washable adhesives, hot-melt adhesives and pressure-sensitive adhesives hinder the recycling process.</p> <p>Metal parts disrupt the recycling process</p>	Reasonably recyclable
	Yes	<u>9. Is the packaging free of additives that hinder recycling?</u>		
	Yes	<u>10. Is the label or tag made from the same material as the packaging?</u>		
	Yes	<u>11. Is the packaging free of non-washable adhesives?</u>		
	Yes	<u>12. Is the packaging free of metal parts?</u>		
<p> The packaging has good recyclability.</p>		<p>Tip: to help consumers dispose of packaging correctly, it can be wise to apply a logo to the packaging. For more information, see <a href="http://www.ooiwiizer.nl">www.ooiwiizer.nl</a>.</p>		GOOD



## **Definition of the different color boxes:**

### **Grey box**

These questions relate to packaging that falls outside the scope of this Recycle Check (Flexible Plastic Packaging).

#### Extra explanation:

These packaging belong to the residual waste. It are packaging that are not seen as flexible plastic packaging. Think of form-retaining packaging as pouches with spout and cap, but also fruit nets, packaging for medicine or small chemical waste packaging.

### **Red box**

These questions relate to packaging that contains a disruptor. These are substances that disrupt the recycling process or who's size hinders recycling.

#### Extra explanation:

These packaging are not desirable for recycling or are not recyclable. They often end up in the plastic waste stream because consumers cannot recognise them as residual waste. Think of flexible plastic packaging including oxo-degradable materials, PVC or PVdC, elastomers or combined materials as plastic with paper or plastic with aluminium.

### **Orange box**

These questions relate to packaging that can only be recycled to a limited extent. These packaging ends up in the mixed stream (i.e. a stream consisting of various different plastics) and therefore has a limited scope of application. Or: this packaging has a label that prevents proper sorting or recycling.

#### Extra explanation:

Think of multi-layer packaging as PET//PE, PET//PA//PE, PET//PA//PP, etc. When this mix stream would be recycled, no new PE, PET or (food) packaging will be made of it, because the quality will be notified as not good enough. Often products as roadside posts will be made of it.

### **Yellow box**

These questions relate to packaging that requires a pre-processing step to become packaging that has **good recyclability**. This type of packaging does end up with the recycler, but affects the quality of the recyclate or the effectiveness of the process. This packaging contaminates a sorted stream consisting of a single type of plastic.

### **Green box**

This packaging has **good recyclability** according to the above-mentioned definition used in KIDV Recycle Check.

