







## Recycling Codes: What they mean?

	<u>TYPE OF PLASTIC</u>	<u>CHARACTERISTICS</u>	<u>APPLICATIONS</u>
	Polyethylene Terephthalate <b>PET</b>	Clear, tough, solvent resistant, often used as a fibre	Carbonated soft drink bottles, pillow and sleeping bag filling, textile fibres
	High Density Polyethylene <b>HDPE</b>	Hard to semi-flexible, waxy surface, opaque, melts at 135°C	Crinkly shopping bags, freezer bags, milk bottles, bleach bottles, buckets, rigid agricultural pipe, milk crates
	Unplasticized Polyvinyl Chloride <b>UPVC</b>	Hard rigid, can be clear, can be solvent welded	Electrical conduit, plumbing pipes and fittings, blister packs, clear cordial and fruit juice bottles
	Plasticized Polyvinyl Chloride <b>PPVC</b>	Flexible, clear, elastic, can be solvent welded	Garden hose, shoe soles, cable sheathing, blood bags and tubing, watch straps
	Low Density Polyethylene <b>LDPE</b>	Soft, flexible, waxy surface translucent, withstands solvents	Garbage bags, squeeze bottles, black irrigation tube, black mulch film, garbage bins
	Polypropylene <b>PP</b>	Hard but still flexible, waxy surface, melts at 145°C, translucent, withstands solvents. Very versatile material with many applications	Potato crisps bags, drinking straws, microwave ware, plastic kettles, plastic garden settings, baby baths, plastic hinged lunch boxes
	Polystyrene <b>PS</b>	Clear, glassy, rigid, brittle, opaque semi-tough, melts at 95°C. Affected by fats and solvents	Plastic cutlery, imitation 'crystal glassware', low cost brittle toys
	Expanded Polystyrene <b>EPS</b>	Foamed, light weight, energy absorbing, heat insulating	Panel insulation, produces boxes, protective packaging for fragile items



**OTHER** : Examples are polyamide, acrylonitrile butadiene styrene (ABS), acrylic, nylon, polyurethane (PU) and phenolics.

