



BII

Guide

www.bii.org



**GUIDANCE ON THE
SINGLE-USE
PLASTIC BAN**



Introduction

From **1 October 2023** businesses must no longer supply, sell or offer certain single-use plastic items in England.

Included in this guide:



How to Prepare

Tips on what you can do to be compliant, and when you will need to take action by.



Inspections

What can be reasonably expected from an inspection by local authorities.



What is banned?

What items are being banned and in what scenarios.



Appeals & help

How to appeal a fine, and who to contact for more help.

HOW TO PREPARE

USING UP EXISTING STOCK BEFORE 1 OCTOBER



FINDING RE-USABLE ALTERNATIVES TO SINGLE-USE ITEMS



USING DIFFERENT MATERIALS FOR SINGLE-USE ITEMS

- If you continue to supply banned single-use plastics after 1 October, you could be fined.
- There are some exemptions to the ban, depending on the item.

WHAT IS BANNED

The ban on these items will include:

- Online and over-the-counter sales and supply
- Items from new and existing stock
- All types of single-use plastic, including biodegradable, compostable and recycled
- Items wholly or partly made from plastic, including coating or lining

'Single use' means the item is meant to be used only once for its original purpose.

CUTLERY & BALLOON STICKS

From **1 October** you must not supply single-use plastic cutlery or balloon sticks.

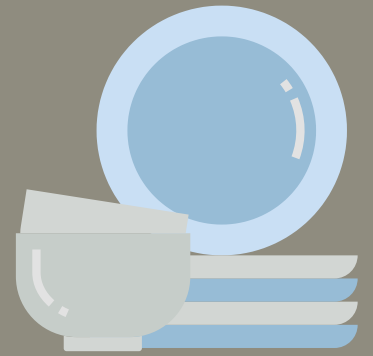
There are no exemptions to this ban.



WHAT IS BANNED

PLATES, BOWLS AND TRAYS

From **1 October** you must not supply single-use plastic plates, trays and bowls to members of the public.



EXEMPTIONS

You can still supply single-use plastic plates, bowls and trays if either of the following apply:

- You are supplying them to another business
- The items are packaging (pre-filled or filled at the point of sale)

Examples of this type of packaging include:

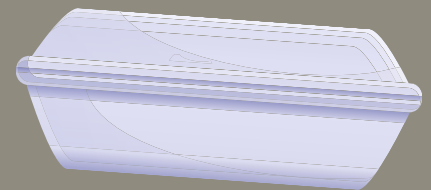
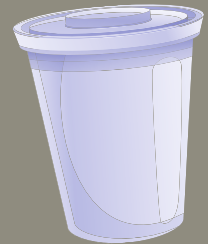
- A pre-filled salad bowl or ready meal packaged in a tray
- A plate filled at the counter of a takeaway
- A tray used to deliver food

WHAT IS BANNED

POLYSTYRENE FOOD AND DRINK CONTAINERS

From **1 October** you must not supply ready-to-consume food and drink in polystyrene containers. This includes in polystyrene cups.

Polystyrene means expanded and extruded polystyrene.



EXEMPTIONS

You can still supply food or drink in polystyrene containers if it needs further preparation before it is consumed. For example, further preparation could mean:

- Adding water
- Microwaving
- Toasting

INSPECTIONS

Local authorities will carry out inspections to make sure the rules are being followed.

Inspectors can:

- Visit a shop or store
- Make test purchases
- Speak to staff
- Ask to see records



If you break the law, inspectors can order your business to cover the cost of the investigation.

Complaints about a business breaking the law can be made to Trading Standards.

APPEAL A FINE



You can appeal within **28 days** of getting a fine if you think something is wrong. A letter with the fine will tell you what to do.

If you can show that you did everything you reasonably could to avoid breaking any rules, this would be an acceptable defence.

GET HELP



If you have any questions about what the new rules mean for your business, contact:



Plastics.Consultation@defra.gov.uk



BII

BRITISH INSTITUTE OF INNKEEPING

Get in touch to find out more about how we can support you.



@BIIandBIIAB



@britishinstituteofinnkeeping



@BIIandBIIAB



@britishinstituteofinnkeeping

CONTACT US:



01276 684 449



www.bii.org



membership@bii.org