Ever Wonder What the Meaning is for the Numbers on Plastic Products?

Plastic

#1

Plastic Type:

PET or PETE (polyethylene terephthalate) – most frequently recycled plastic

Items Include:

Peanut butter jars, soda bottles, water bottles, microwaveable food trays



Plastic

#2

Plastic Type:

HDPE (high density polyethylene) – nearly as common as PET

Items Include:

Milk jugs, laundry detergent bottles, butter tubs, motor oil bottles, some shopping bags



Plastic

#3

Plastic Type:

PVC (polyvinyl chloride) – best known for use in pipes

Items Include:

Additional items like cooking oil bottles, shampoo bottles, medical tubing, wire jacketing, window cleaner spray bottles



Plastic

#4

Plastic Type:

LDPE (low density polyethylene)

Items Include:

Squeezable condiment bottles, squeezy toys, plastic films, shrink wrap



Plastic

#5

Plastic Type:

PP (polypropylene) – high melting point, great for hot liquids

Items Include:

Syrup, ketchup and medicine bottles, also bottle caps and straws



Plastic

#6

Plastic Type:

PS (polystyrene) – extremely versatile

Items Include:

Packing peanuts, CD cases, take-out containers, disposable plates, aspirin bottles, egg cartons



Plastic

Plastic Type:

*#*7

Miscellaneous category – many municipalities do not collect these plastics

Items Include:

Oven-baking bags, 3-5 gallon jugs

