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Waste disposal

More household waste is generated in the kitchen than any other room. Most is produced near the sink and dishwasher which is the logical place to position waste bins.

Recycling waste

A good deal of waste can be recycled. Many local authorities will collect the following items providing it is clean and separated for recycling:

glass, aluminium and tin cans, paper and also plastic containers if they are marked with the triangular recycle logo.

For households with a garden, organic waste can be put on a *compost heap*. This can include all vegetable waste, egg shells, tea bags, etc., but should NOT include bread, meat or fat which will encourage rats.



'Mobius Loop'
a recycling logo
in general use



Recycling logo from DEFRA
(Dept. for Environment Food
and Rural Affairs) with dif-
ferent coloured grounds for
different types of waste



Polyethylene
terephthalate



High density
polyethylene



Polyvinyl
chloride



Low density
polyethylene



Polypropylene



Polystyrene



All other resins
and multi materials

Recycling logos for plastic materials

Waste bins

In an ideal world, kitchen waste would be separated into six bins as follows:

vegetables, teabags, eggshells	for compost heap
metal cans	for recycling
glass	for recycling
plastic	for recycling
paper	for recycling
anything else	for dustbin

This is obviously difficult to achieve especially when space is at a premium.

However, even the smallest kitchen should have at least three bins: one for general rubbish and two for metal and glass.

There are various proprietary systems for fitting waste bins into cabinets such as:

Pull-out rectangular bins suspended on runners with combinations of two, three and five bins, depending on cabinet width.

Bins fitted to insides of doors with lids opening automatically as doors are opened.

Tall bins to fit 300 mm wide cabinets with pull-out or hopper doors.