

1 Glass

THE FACTS

Take a stroll down any supermarket aisle and you're almost guaranteed to find products in glass packaging – from Pickles to Sauces to the finest of Champagnes. And with so many food stuffs packaged in glass it is not at all surprising that the average family uses approximately 500 bottles and jars every year.

Believe it or not, glass takes up about 8-10% of the average household bin in this country. Glass is regularly used as a packaging material and it's estimated that more than 2 million tonnes of glass packaging is used in the UK every year.

New glass is actually made from a mixture of sand, soda ash, limestone and other additives.

Glass can be recycled indefinitely but sadly, in the UK we are only recycling about 30% of the glass in the waste stream. We can do better!

HOW IS GLASS RECYCLED?

Although residents put different coloured glass in their recycling box, it is colour separated into brown, clear and green glass by the collection crew into the recycling vehicle.

At the end of the collection round the vehicle unloads at Slyfield Waste Transfer Station, where it is bulked together with other colour separated glass bottles and jars from across Surrey.

From there it is transported in large lorries to a glass recycling facility where it is crushed, producing small pieces of glass called 'cullet'.

The cleansing process removes unwanted materials, such as paper labels.

The clean cullet is now melted and injected into moulds to make new glass bottles.



For further information about Recycling and Waste Reduction please call the Recycling Hotline on 01483 445 084

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Recycling glass in Guildford couldn't be easier.

- Use your free green kerbside recycling box to store your glass bottles and jars.
- Labels do not need removing, just give them a rinse and remove any lids, tops or corks!
- The box should be put out on the kerbside by 7am on the morning of your collection, the Council will take care of the rest.
- If you are elderly or disabled, please let us know and we can arrange for an Assisted Collection.
- Don't forget we still collect glass from a number of recycling centres across Guildford.
- If you have blue bottles they should be placed in the same bank as green glass.
- For your nearest site, a full list is available in the Recycling Directory or on our website.
- Reusing glass jars is even better for the environment.
- Consider using old glass jars for holding nails and coins, they are ideal for storing homemade jams and sauces.
- Glass bottles are great for using as candleholders or as colourful doorstops. Jars make cheap tealight holders for the garden.
- See how inventive you can be!

Please note that we can only collect glass bottles and jars – we cannot collect any other glass products, such as light bulbs, window panes (sheet glass), pyrex or crockery.

Broken glass is a danger to our collection crew, please dispose of this safely in your black sack.

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that glass was being used in the Middle East as early as 4000 BC? It is also thought that glass-blowing may have developed as early as 300 BC!

RECYCLING.
It's not a load of rubbish.