

## 4.2. Waste collection and recycling



### 4.2.1. What is important to know?

#### **Waste collection and recycling**

In order to protect our environment, it is very important to correctly separate, classify and recycle waste.

#### **What is selective waste?**

It means the separation of waste of different materials.

#### **Why should waste be collected selectively?**

So that it can be recycled.

#### **What kind of waste can be collected selectively?**

Paper, plastic, glass, metal.

Recycling is a common task with which we can contribute to the protection of our environment.

#### **Selective waste collection calendar**

Every city and village plans in advance which days the collected and sorted waste will be taken away from the houses. At this time, the big garbage trucks go to the houses to take away the waste. The municipality tells you when and where the garbage truck goes to pick up the waste.

We use containers marked with different colors to collect individual waste.



In the **blue container**: we collect only clean paper-based waste.



**Allowed:** This can include newspapers, booklets, envelopes, books, wrapping paper and cardboard boxes. Boxes and cartons must be flattened before throwing them away so that they take up as little space as possible.



**Prohibited:** It is not allowed to throw food residues and other oily, greasy papers into the container. Do not throw in used tissue, paper towels and napkins either. Diapers and used sanitary napkins must not be thrown here.



We collect plastic-based waste in the **yellow container**.



**Allowed:** This includes soft drink and mineral water PET bottles, household bottles, cosmetic bottles, clear films and plastic bags found in households. This includes the rinsed sour cream and yogurt cups. Plastic bottles must be placed in the bin flattened.



**Prohibited:** Do not throw chemical, greasy bottles or plastic toys here.

Not all plastics can be collected selectively. Plastic types with these codes (designations) can be recycled and thrown in the yellow bin:

**PET: Code 1. HDPE: code 2, LDPE: code 4 PP: code 5**



We collect glass in the **green container**. Colored bottles (wine and beer bottles) without lids or caps are placed here.



**Allowed:** This can include mason jars and glass bottles.



**Prohibited:** Do not throw window glass, mirrors, light bulbs, glasses, medicine bottles, porcelain here.



Metal waste is collected in the **red container**.



**Allowed:** This includes aluminum beverage cans and metal cans.



**Prohibited:** you must not put cans with leftover food here.



We put organic waste in the **brown container**. In houses with gardens, organic waste is placed directly on the garden compost.

**Textiles and clothing** are placed in separate bins designated for this purpose.

The rest of the waste is collected in collection containers. These are called **communal** containers. But we can't put hazardous waste here. Such dangerous

waste is medicine, used oil, paints, bicycle tires. We can drop them off at designated locations. Return the remaining medicine to the pharmacy..

Electrical and electronic waste is placed in the collection containers of specialist shops. E-waste is, for example, a broken washing machine or refrigerator. Electronic waste, for example, is a broken computer, printer, or camera.

In some stores, we can hand over plastic bottles and metal cans to automatic machines. After that, the machine prints out a label with the value of the delivered waste. This amount can be redeemed in the store.



## Recycling

**Recycling** – a new product from the selectively collected waste

Raw material → finished product → waste → secondary produced raw material  
→ finished product



### **The benefits of recycling:**

- we save energy
- we save raw materials
- there will be less waste
- environmental protection - less carbon dioxide enters the air

Fewer trees need to be cut down for paper production, less iron ore needs to be mined by recycling metal, and cashmere, wool can be reused. Textiles, clothes, carpets and other products can be made from PET bottles.

Plastic is one of the most harmful materials, so it is worth replacing it with another material that is environmentally friendly.

Environmentally friendly is a substance that does not pollute the environment, does not harm plants, animals or people.

Plastic already pollutes during its production, and later during its use as well.

**Most plastics do not decompose in 500 years.** The biggest problem is **single-use plastics**, because there are so many of them.

**Recycling art** – many artists use discarded objects in their works.