

## REQUIREMENTS FOR SINGLE-USE PLASTIC PRODUCTS

The EU Member States are responsible for taking measures to reduce the impact of certain plastic products on the environment and to monitor use of these products.

In accordance with the EU Single-Use Plastics Directive and the Austrian Packaging Ordinance and Waste Management Act (which transpose the Directive into national law), the following requirements apply.

SINGLE-USE PLASTIC PRODUCTS (PACKAGING) MADE WHOLLY OR PARTLY FROM PLASTIC			
PRODUCT	EXEMPTIONS	REQUIREMENT	TIMELINE
Single-use <b>beverage containers</b> ≤ 3 litres (e. g. beverage bottles, pouches or cartons, cartons; excluding beverage cups)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Beverage containers made of glass or metal with plastic caps or lids</li> <li>- for medical purposes</li> <li>- Caps or lids with plastic seals as the only plastic component are not considered to be made of plastic</li> </ul>	Plastic caps or lids must remain firmly attached to the container throughout its entire use (tethered caps)	from 3 July 2024
Single-use <b>beverage bottles</b> ≤ 3 litres	Exemptions as for single-use beverage containers (see above)	25 % rPET share for PET bottles	from 1 January 2025
		30 % regranulate share	from 1 January 2030
<b>Food packaging:</b> (partially) rigid containers such as boxes for food intended for immediate consumption		Measures to ensure a quantifiable reduction by 2026 compared to 2022	by 2026
<b>Packets and wrappers containing food</b> intended for immediate consumption			+) +)
Single-use <b>beverage cups</b>		Measures to ensure a quantifiable reduction by 2026 compared to 2022	by 2026
		Labelling requirements in accordance with the EU Implementing Regulation (Go to <a href="#">Fact sheet</a> )	+) from 3 July 2021
Single-use beverage containers, beverage cups and food packaging (rigid or partially rigid containers such as boxes for food intended for immediate consumption) made of <b>expanded polystyrene</b> (EPS/Styropor®)		Banned	from 3 July 2021
Beverage stirrers, drinking straws, <b>single-use cutlery and plates</b>	For medical purposes	Banned	from 3 July 2021

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<b>PRODUCT</b>	<b>EXEMPTIONS</b>	<b>REQUIREMENT</b>	<b>TIMELINE</b>
Plastic carrier bags	Exemptions in accordance with Article 13k WMA for reusable bags and certain very lightweight plastic carrier bags (with a wall thickness below 0.015 mm), see below (Go to <a href="#">Fact sheet</a> )	Banned	from 1 January 2019
Very lightweight plastic carrier bags (with a wall thickness below 0.015 mm) that can be proven to be made primarily of renewable materials and suitable for home-composting in line with the state of the art (Go to <a href="#">Fact sheet</a> )			<sup>+) </sup> from 1 January 2019

<b>OTHER SINGLE-USE PLASTIC PRODUCTS AND FISHING GEAR, MADE WHOLLY OR PARTLY FROM PLASTIC</b>			
<b>PRODUCT</b>	<b>EXEMPTIONS</b>	<b>REQUIREMENT</b>	<b>TIMELINE</b>
Cotton bud sticks	For medical purposes	Banned	from 3 July 2021
Sticks to be attached to and to support balloons	For industrial or other professional uses and applications (not distributed to consumers)	Banned	from 3 July 2021
Balloons	For industrial or other professional uses and applications (not distributed to consumers)		<sup>+) </sup>
Sanitary towels (pads), tampons and tampon applicators		Labelling requirements in accordance with the EU Implementing Regulation (Go to <a href="#">Fact sheet</a> ) <sup>++)</sup>	from 3 July 2021
Wet wipes	For industrial or other professional uses and applications (not distributed to consumers)	Labelling requirements in accordance with the EU Implementing Regulation (Go to <a href="#">Fact sheet</a> ) <sup>+) </sup>	from 3 July 2021
Tobacco product filters		KLabelling requirements in accordance with the EU Implementing Regulation (Go to <a href="#">Fact sheet</a> ) <sup>+) </sup>	from 3 July 2021
Fishing gear for living marine resources			<sup>+) </sup>

<sup>+)</sup>  Plus, extended producer responsibility principle (covering the costs of cleaning up litter, waste collection of products discarded in public containers, transport and treatment of that waste) and awareness raising measures:

- obligation to report quantity data to collection and recovery schemes from 2022 (deadline: 15 March 2023)
- collection and recovery schemes must collect standardised surcharges from 2023

<sup>++)</sup>  Plus, awareness raising measures

Please refer to the fact sheet [Reporting and classification of single-use plastic products](#) for more information