Know Your Plastics

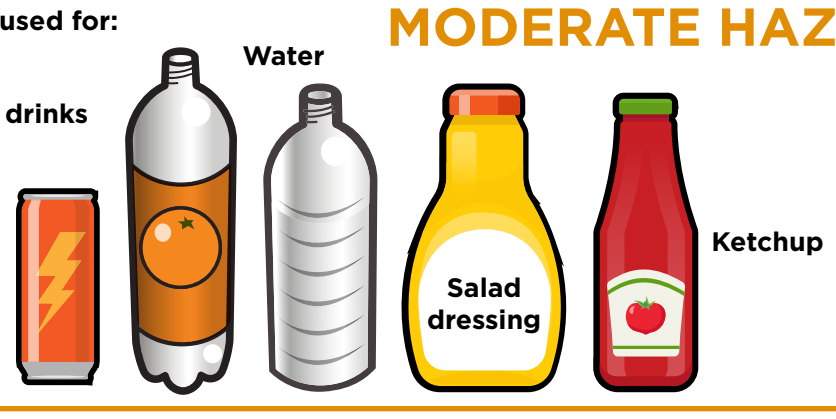
1 PET or PETE

Polyethylene terephthalate

Plastic breaks down after multiple uses allowing antimony, a semimetallic chemical element, to seep into liquids.

Typically used for:

MODERATE HAZARD



2 HDPE

High density polyethylene

Typically used for:

LOW HAZARD

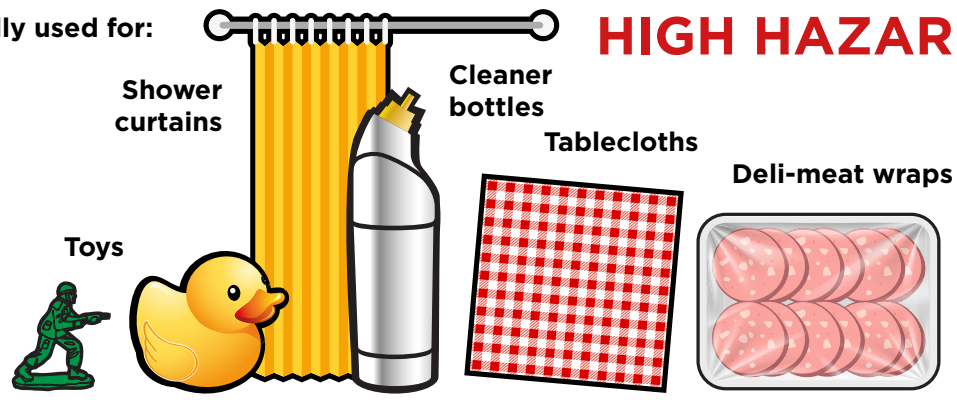
3 PVC

Polyvinyl chloride

Endocrine disruptors interfere with endocrine (or hormonal) systems. This can cause cancerous tumors, birth defects, and other developmental disorders.

Typically used for:

HIGH HAZARD



4 LDPE

Low density polyethylene

Typically used for:

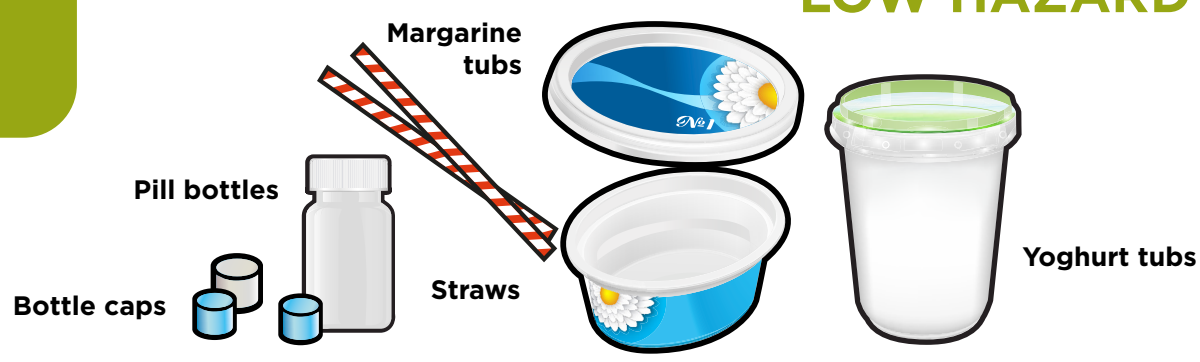
LOW HAZARD

5 PP

Polypropylene

Typically used for:

LOW HAZARD



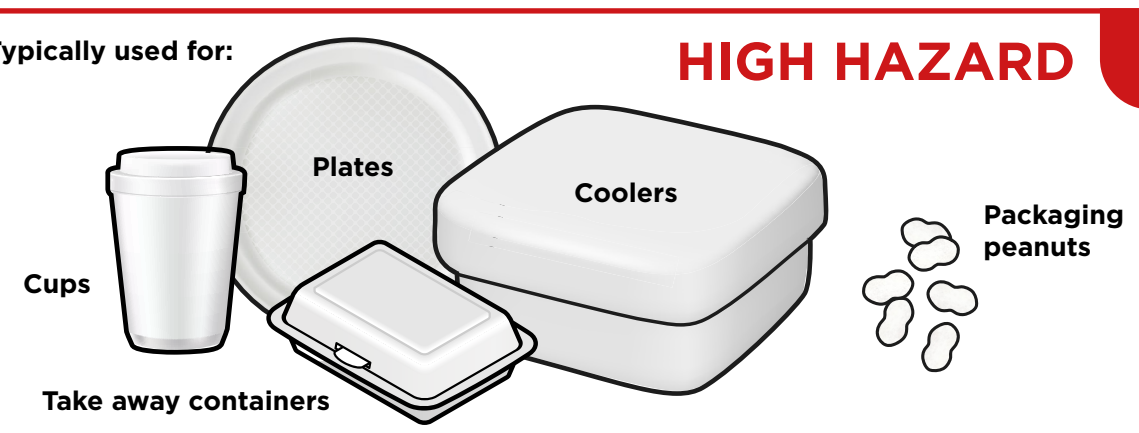
6 PS

Polystyrene

Typically known as styrofoam. Styrene can leach from polystyrene. This can lead to nervous system damage and cancer.

Typically used for:

HIGH HAZARD

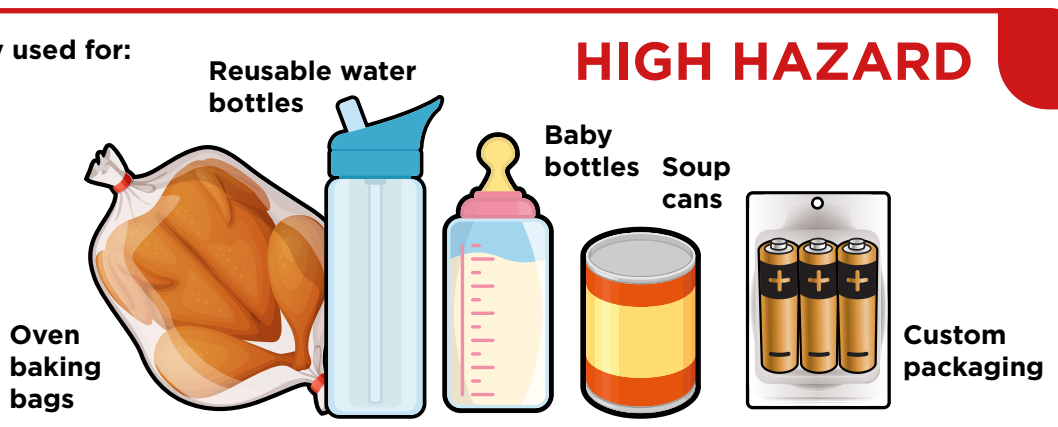


7 OTHER

Packages and resins not covered in the six standard categories. Leaches BPA (Bisphenol A, an industrial chemical used to make plastics) which causes endocrine disruption and reproductive toxicity.

Typically used for:

HIGH HAZARD



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