

## Acceptable Materials

Rumpke Recycling offers customers a comprehensive list of acceptable recyclables to maximize waste diversion and enhance the recycling effort. Acceptable materials may vary by location.

In general, the following types of materials are acceptable in Rumpke Recycling's residential programs. Please click each category for specific items:

### Commonly acceptable paper materials include:

- **White ledger paper:** computer, copy machine and typewriter paper; white ledger pads, adding machine tape
- **News Quality Papers:** newspaper, phonebooks, wide-lined news print
- **Folders:** manila, colored and coated folders
- **Mail:** letters, brochures, advertisements, magazines
- **Correspondence:** legal pad paper, colored paper and message sheets, self adhesive notes, index cards, fax paper
- **Envelopes:** with or without windows, with labels, colored and coated
- **Computer paper**
- **Brown Papers:** brown envelopes, brown grocery bags, cereal boxes, beverage carrier boxes, and clean pizza boxes (without grease)
- **Cardboard Boxes:** broken down into 3 feet by 3 feet sections

### Unacceptable paper materials:

- Text Books: the glue binding contaminates the paper
- Candy Wrappers: candy and sugars contaminate the paper
- Dirty plates, cups and napkins: these items have food particles contaminating the paper
- Facial tissue and paper towels: these items are contaminated

Rumpke Recycling **accepts all plastic bottles #1-7** in its residential recycling programs. The bottle must have a small mouth with a base wider than the mouth. Typical bottles include milk jugs, soda bottles, laundry detergent bottles, water bottles, shampoo bottles and contact solution bottles.

### Unacceptable plastic materials:

Any plastic not in the shape of a bottle is **not acceptable** in Rumpke Recycling's residential programs, such as:

- Plastic bags (i.e. grocery bags)
- Butter tubs or whipped topping tubs
- Plastic plates, cups and utensils
- Food trays, like the ones from frozen meals
- Toys or plastic wrappers/packaging
- Film containers
- Oil jugs

- Medical sharps or medical waste  
*(Do not place medical sharps or medical waste inside of recyclables. For example, plastic containers being used to dispose of sharps should be placed in the garbage only and are not recyclable. They may place employees who are sorting the material at risk of serious injury.)*

**Commonly acceptable metals include:**

- Aluminum cans: beverage and food cans.
- Steel cans: soup, food and aerosol cans.

**Unacceptable metals:**

- Scrap metal (except at Rumpke Recycling buy-back centers)
- Pots and pans
- Coat hangers
- Paint cans

Rumpke Recycling's [Public Buy-Back Centers](#) accept a wide variety of scrap metals.

**Commonly acceptable glass:**

- Glass bottles and jars: clear, brown, blue and green.  
Please rinse and remove lids.

**Unacceptable glass:**

- Window glass
- Drinking glasses
- Fish tanks
- Light bulbs

Due to breakage with glass bottles, this material has historically been a challenge for recycling companies. Recently, Rumpke Recycling constructed a facility in Dayton, Ohio to process mixed broken cullet (glass) suitable for use in the fiberglass industry. Rumpke Recycling received funding from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) for this project, which has produced very successful results.