



Lids for takeaway food containers, bowls, plates and trays

Enforcement begins 1 September 2024

What is proposed to be banned and when?

The sale and supply of lids for takeaway food containers, bowls, plates and trays made wholly or partly from plastic will be phased out from 27 February 2023.

Unlidded bowls and containers were [banned](#) in Stage 1 with enforcement commencing on 1 July 2022. Unlidded trays for takeaway food are also being banned in Stage 2, and a separate fact sheet for this item is available.

There will be a transition period of 18 months before the rules are enforced to allow businesses to use up supplies and source alternative products.

Enforcement of the ban on plastic lids for takeaway food containers, bowls and trays will commence on 1 September 2024.

Why ban single use lids?

Each year Western Australians use more than 130 million lids for plastic containers, bowls, plates and trays. Plastic lids are commonly littered and are not readily recyclable, contaminating recycling systems.

What is not included in the ban?

- plastic-lined paperboard lids certified to Australian composting standards AS 4736:2006 and/or AS 5810:2010
- plastic lids for food containers, bowls, plates and trays not used in a takeaway food setting (e.g. instant noodle bowls, ready-to-heat meals)
- plastic lids and windows for pre-packaged takeaway food such as sandwiches and sushi
- reusable container lids designed for washing and ongoing use.



What alternatives are there?

Compliant alternatives include non-plastic or lined disposable lids for food containers, bowls, plates and trays made from bagasse fibre and paperboard which are suitable for hot and cold food.



Will it cost more to buy food in lidded containers?

The phase-out of plastic lids for food containers, bowls, plates and trays will require takeaway food businesses to source alternatives, which may cost slightly more. Costs are likely to decrease over time as more compliant alternatives become available.

Who will the ban apply to?

The ban applies to all businesses, manufacturers, retailers and distributors that sell or supply single-use plastic lids for plastic takeaway food containers, bowls, plates and trays.

