

Hot and cold cup lids Enforcement begins 1 March 2024

What is proposed to be banned and when?

The sale and supply of plastic lids for cups made wholly or partly from plastic will be phased out from 27 February 2023. The ban includes bioplastic lids, plastic-lined paperboard lids, and aqueous coatings.

There will be a transition period of 12 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 cups will commence on 1 March 2024.



Why ban single-use lids?

Each year Western Australians use more than 250 million plastic cup lids for hot and cold beverages and food.

Plastic lids are commonly littered. Many are made of polystyrene, polylactic acid and crystallised polylactic acid which are not recyclable and contaminate recycling streams. Plastic-lined paperboard also contaminates composting and recycling streams.

What is not included in the ban?

- cup lids made from plastic designed for washing and reuse, for example as part of a 'keep' cup
- plastic cup lids used as part of a pre-packaged product
- uncoated all-fibre lids.



What alternatives are there?

There are all-fibre non-plastic lids suitable for hot and cold drinks, which do not contain any plastic lining, coating, laminate or dispersion layer.

Reusable products with lids are widely available for cold drinks such as smoothies and bubble tea.

Customers can bring their own reusable cup and lid.

Will it cost more to buy drinks with a non-plastic lid?

Compliant alternatives for plastic lids may initially cost slightly more but this is expected to decrease over time as more options become available.

Who will the ban apply to?

The ban applies to all businesses, manufacturers, retailers and distributors that sell or supply plastic cup lids.

Further information for retailers and suppliers is available at plasticsbanwa.com.au or the National Retail Association toll free hotline on 1800 817 723 (9am to 5pm AWST weekdays).

