

Beginner's Guide to Coffee Cups

More than three billion disposable coffee cups are produced every year in Australia, with the majority ending up in landfill. What can be recycled? Put simply, the plastic lid can be recycled. The paper cup technically can be, but most waste recovery facilities currently do not accept them for recycling because the process is not economical. Hence, they end up in landfill.

Office occupants have a critical role to play in the quest to reduce, reuse and recycle or compost coffee cup waste. Utilising reusable coffee cups is an obvious first choice; and increasingly cafés are supporting customers who bring in their own cups by offering a discount.

Choose.Reuse. is a CitySwitch developed [behaviour change toolkit](#) for one of the most visible problematic waste item: disposable coffee cups. The toolkit contains a suite of communications and tracking materials which any business can use to encourage staff to use reusable cups when buying coffee; making wasteful takeaway coffee cups a last-resort option.

Quick Guide

To the Choose.Reuse. Coffee Cup Toolkit:

- Measure** - Kick things off with a waste assessment, using the [DIY CitySwitch Waste Assessment Tool](#)
- Set a goal** - Get senior management buy-in and set the bar high with a disposable cup reduction target
- Roll out messaging** – [Download the graphics, posters, and email templates](#) to encourage positive change over the campaign period
- Reward efforts** - Workplace or building-wide competitions can be run using the toolkit's reward punchcards
- Track success** - At the end of the campaign, use the CitySwitch Waste Assessment Tool again to measure your results
- Let us know** - Please get in touch and let us know how you went so we can share your successes!

Resources

Choose.Reuse. branded posters, coasters, punchcards and mugs may be obtained through your CitySwitch program manager to help promote the campaign in your workplace.

The full suite of [Choose:Reuse tools and resources](#), are available on the CitySwitch website.

Many cafés now offer a discount for bringing along your own cup and some cafés are now offering compostable take-away cups. If your local café does not support these initiatives, encourage them to get involved!

Find [Responsible Cafés](#) near you.

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