

**There are about 50 different groups of plastics, with hundreds of different varieties. All types of plastic are recyclable.**

**To make sorting and thus recycling easier, the American Society of Plastics Industry developed a standard marking code to help consumers identify and sort the main types of plastic.**

**These types and their most common uses are:**



**PET - Polyethylene terephthalate - Fizzy drink bottles and oven-ready meal trays, peanut butter jars**



**HDPE - High-density polyethylene - Bottles for milk and washing-up liquids, motor oil**



**PVC - Polyvinyl chloride - Food trays, fast food service items and shampoo, cooking oil bottles**



**LDPE - Low density polyethylene - Grocery bags and can liners.**



**PP - Polypropylene - Margarine tubs, microwaveable meal trays, bottle caps, yogurt containers, straws**



**PS - Polystyrene - foam meat or fish trays, hamburger boxes and egg cartons, vending cups, plastic cutlery, protective packaging for electronic goods and toys (packing peanuts).**



**OTHER - Any other plastics that do not fall into any of the above categories. - An example is melamine, which is often used in plastic plates and cups.**