

HOLY WASTE!

RECYCLABLE | BIODEGRADABLE | COMPOSTABLE

RECYCLABLE

What it means: can be reprocessed into new products



In Europe, **most** of paperboard, metal and glass **is recycled** ([source](#))

It can also be **reprocessed** into the same products or lower grade materials



Only **16%** of all plastic waste is re-processed to make new plastics ([source](#))

By 2024, the recycling market is **expected to be worth:** ([source](#))



What it means: materials will break down when decomposed by bacteria or other living organisms (no timeframe)

BIODEGRADABLE



'Biodegradable' products are **not certified or regulated** e.g. a single-use cup that is 70% organic material and 30% plastic can be sold as 'biodegradable'

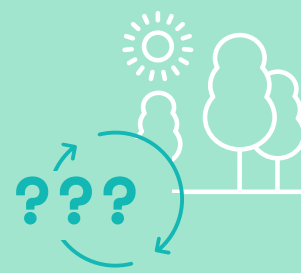
The **cost** of biodegradable plastics manufacturing is **more than 2X** that of conventional plastics ([source](#))



While biodegradable packaging has the ability to break down into smaller parts, there's **no guarantee** that these are **not harmful** to the environment



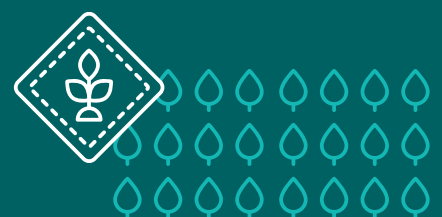
By 2024, this will be the **expected worth** of the biodegradable packaging market ([source](#))



COMPOSTABLE

What it means: will break down into a substance that can be used as compost, with no toxic impact on the soil.

For bioplastic to be certified as compostable, it must **decompose** at the same speed as organic matter: typically **within 3-6 months**



Unless labeled as suitable for home composting, compostable packaging **must be processed** at a facility that can create the **necessary conditions**

Compostable packaging **should not be recycled** (it can actually contaminate the process!)



By 2027, this will be the **expected worth** of the compostable packaging market ([source](#))

