I'm not a robot

The numbers printed in the middle of the recycling symbol are key identification codes. Here's what they each mean.By Kristin HuntUpdated Jan. 17 2020, 12:06 p.m. ETSource: green mattersRecyclable plastic usually comes with a little recycling symbol printed on the bottom and depending on the product, there might be a 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, or 7 stamped in the center of the symbol. It’s easy to miss, but this tiny digit is actually pretty important, because it’s an ID. Article continues below advertisementThe number is a resin identification code, used to help recycling plants sort materials. Recyclable plastics are labeled with numbers 1-7 to tell workers what kind of plastic it is, and how it should be processed. But it also helps recycling collectors determine what items they can accept — and which ones go in the trash.These numbers are valuable consumer information, because they spell out the likelihood of your recycling ending up in a landfill. So brush up on your resin codes below, and adjust your recycling habits accordingly:Article continues below advertisementSource: PixabayArticle continues below advertisementEven if you don’t know the term “polyethylene terephthalate” (PET or PETE), you’ve probably encountered this type of plastic before. It’s the most frequently recycled one, and it can be found in peanut butter jars, plastic soda and water bottles, microwavable food trays, and salad dressing bottles. Article continues below advertisementThis coding refers to high density polyethylene, or HDPE. This plastic forms milk jugs, laundry detergent bottles, butter tubs, motor oil bottles, and some shopping bags. It’s a little tougher than PET, but nearly as common.Article continues below advertisementPolyvinyl chloride (PVC) is best known for its use in pipes, but that’s not the only product that relies on plastic no. 3. PVC also appears in cooking oil and shampoo bottles, medical tubing, wire jacketing, and window cleaner spray bottles.Source: Flickr/7E55E-BRNArticle continues below advertisementWe’ve already covered HDPE, so now meet LDPE: low density polyethylene. LDPE can be found in squeezable condiment bottles and toys, but it’s mostly used in plastic films. That means shrink wrap, as well as bags — dry cleaning, grocery, bread, frozen food, and produce bags all qualify.Article continues below advertisementPolypropylene, or PP, has a high melting point that makes it great for containing hot liquids. Syrup, ketchup, and medicine bottles all rely on PP, but you’ll also find it in bottle caps and straws.Article continues below advertisementSource: PixabayArticle continues below advertisementPolystyrene (PS) is an incredibly versatile plastic. It can be manipulated into a soft foam, like packing peanuts, or hardened into a sturdy CD case. PS is further used in take-out containers, disposable plates and cutlery, aspirin bottles, and egg cartons.Article continues below advertisementThere’s no long or fancy name for this plastic, because plastic no. 7 is more of a miscellaneous category for everything that didn’t fit into the last six slots. Think oven-baking bags, or those large 3-5 gallon jugs used to refill the office water cooler. Because it’s such a nebulous group, don’t expect your local municipality to collect these plastics.But you should double-check your local recycling guidelines on all of these plastics, because different cities and towns tend to have different rules. You can safely assume the recycling haulers will take PET and HDPE (plastics 1-2) but after that, it becomes a bit of a guessing game. Look up the rules on your local .gov website to find out what exactly goes in your blue bin.Latest Zero Waste News and Updates When it comes to recycling, knowing the plastic codes is super helpful! You've got seven codes to watch for: Code 1 is for those handy water bottles, Code 2 is for milk jugs, and Code 3 is for stuff like pipes (but skip recycling this one!). Code 4 covers grocery bags, Code 5 is for food containers, while Codes 6 and 7 include things like Styrofoam and mixed plastics, which can be tricky. Each code means something different for recycling, so knowing them helps keep things clean. Stick around, and you'll find out even more about what each code means! Key Takeaways Code 1 (PETE): Commonly used for beverage bottles; widely accepted in curbside recycling programs. Code 2 (HDPE): Found in milk jugs; strong and generally accepted for recycling. Code 3 (PVC): Used in pipes; difficult to recycle and should be avoided in curbside bins. Code 4 (LDPE): Includes soft plastics like grocery bags; has limited recycling options. Code 5 (PP): Common in food containers; gaining acceptance in recycling, but check local guidelines. Overview of Plastic Recycling Codes Have you ever wondered what those little numbers on the bottom of your plastic containers mean? Those numbers are actually plastic recycling codes, created by the Society of the Plastics Industry back in 1988. There are seven distinct codes, each representing different types of plastic with unique properties and recycling characteristics. Knowing these codes helps you identify which plastics are recyclable, making it easier to do your part for the environment. Understanding that only 5-6% of plastics are recycled in the U.S. highlights the importance of effective recycling practices and proper waste management. When you toss a plastic container into the recycling bin, understanding these codes can really make a difference. It reduces contamination in recycling streams and helps recycling facilities do their job more efficiently. With the rise of single stream recycling, sorting processes have evolved; now, advanced technologies like robots and AI are used in Material Recovery Facilities to enhance efficiency. As a consumer, being aware of these Plastic Recycling Symbols can influence your proper waste management practices. Detailed Breakdown of Each Code Understanding the plastic recycling codes can really help you make informed choices about what to recycle. These codes, introduced by the Society of the Plastics Industry, categorize different types of plastic from 1 to 7. It's important to note that plastic bags, often categorized under complexity in assessing their environmental impact, can complicate recycling efforts. Here's a quick breakdown: Code 1 (PETE): You'll find this in beverage bottles and jars, and it's super popular in curbside recycling. Code 2 (HDPE): Think milk jugs and detergent bottles. These are strong and usually accepted in most recycling programs. Code 3 (PVC): Used in pipes and siding, but it's a tough cookie to recycle. Best to avoid putting these in your recycling bin. Codes 4 (LDPE) and 5 (PP) cover those soft plastics like grocery bags and food containers. While LDPE has limited options, PP is gaining traction in recycling facilities, but you should check locally. Recycling Process and Consumer Roles How can you make a difference in the recycling process? It starts with you! As a consumer, your role is super important. When you toss plastics into your curbside recycling bin, make sure they're accepted in curbside recycling by your local municipality. Contamination can spoil an entire batch and send it straight to the landfill! Here's a quick look at some common plastics and what you should do: Plastic Type Accepted in Curbside Recycling? Example Uses PET (1) Yes Water bottles HDPE (2) Yes Milk jugs PVC (3) No Pipes LDPE (4) Sometimes Grocery bags Knowing the different types of plastic helps you recycle right. Plus, community involvement in local recycling programs can boost recycling rates and reduce waste. So, get informed about your local guidelines, join recycling initiatives, and encourage your friends and family to do the same. Together, we can create a cleaner planet! Health and Safety Concerns When it comes to plastic, you mightn't realize just how much the type you choose can affect your health. Different recycling codes indicate varying levels of safety, especially when it comes to food storage. Here are some key health risks to keep in mind: Chemical Leaching: Plastics like PVC (#3) and polycarbonate (#7) can leach harmful chemicals like BPA and phthalates, which are linked to serious health issues. In fact, bottles with recycling code 7 may contain BPA and other harmful substances, making them particularly concerning for vulnerable populations. Temperature Sensitivity: Containers made from polypropylene (#5) can release harmful substances when heated, raising safety concerns about reheating food in them. High temperatures can cause leaching. Neurotoxic Effects: Polystyrene (#6) is known for leaching styrene, especially with hot foods, which can have neurotoxic and carcinogenic effects. Being aware of these health implications is crucial. If you're storing food or beverages, consider opting for safer alternatives like glass or stainless steel. These materials don't have the same chemical leaching risks, so you can enjoy your meals without worrying about prolonged exposure to harmful substances. Always check those recycling codes and prioritize your health! Environmental Impact of Recycling Choosing the right type of plastic can not only impact your health but also play a significant role in the environment. Recycling plastics has some serious environmental benefits that we can't ignore. With only 9% of plastic produced since the 1950s being recycled, it's clear we need to step up our game. When you recycle, you're helping to conserve natural resources and reduce landfill waste. For instance, recycling one ton of plastic saves about 7.4 cubic yards of landfill space. Here's a quick look at some key benefits: Benefit Impact Conserve Natural Resources Reduces need for new materials Lower Greenhouse Gas Emissions Cuts emissions by 1.5 tons of CO2/ton Energy Conservation Uses 66% less energy than virgin plastics Fight Plastic Pollution Helps tackle microplastics in products Frequently Asked Questions What Are the 7 Plastic Codes? Imagine sorting your laundry into different piles—whites, colors, delicates. The seven plastic recycling codes work kinda like that! You've got Code 1 for those trusty beverage bottles, Code 2 for milk jugs, and Code 3 for pipes that rarely get recycled. Then there's Code 4 for grocery bags, Code 5 for yogurt containers, and Codes 6 and 7 for tricky plastics. Knowing these codes helps you recycle smarter and reduce waste! What Do the Numbers on Plastic Recycling Mean? The numbers on plastic recycling codes help you understand what type of plastic you're dealing with. Each number, from 1 to 7, represents a different kind of resin, which impacts how recyclable the item is. For example, if you see a 1, it usually means it's a beverage bottle that's easy to recycle. On the other hand, a 3 might be tricky since it's often not accepted at recycling facilities. Which Plastic Code Cannot Be Recycled? When you're sorting your plastics, keep an eye out for code 3, which stands for Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC). It's tough to recycle because of its melting properties and harmful additives. Then there's code 6, Polystyrene (PS), which is tricky too—technically recyclable, but most places won't take it. Lastly, code 7 covers a bunch of different plastics, many of which just can't be recycled. How Many Recycling Codes Are There? There are seven recycling codes for plastics, and each one helps you figure out what type of plastic you're dealing with. You'll often see these codes inside a triangle of arrows. It's like a secret language for recyclables! For example, Code 1 is pretty common and easy to recycle, while others can be a bit tricky. Knowing these codes can definitely help you make better recycling choices in your daily life! The well-recognized “chasing arrows” symbol we see on plastic containers and products does not mean the product is recyclable. The little number inside the triangle tells the real story. This article has been updated from its original text. Within each chasing arrows triangle, there is a number which ranges from one to seven. The purpose of the number is to identify the type of plastic used for the product, and not all plastics are recyclable or even reusable. There are numerous plastic-based products that cannot break down and cannot be recycled. Understanding the seven plastic codes will make it easier to choose plastics and to know which plastics to recycle. For example, water bottles that display a three or a five cannot be recycled in most jurisdictions in the US. A three indicates that the water bottle has been made from polyvinyl chloride, a five means that it’s been made of polypropylene, two materials that are not accepted by most public recycling centers. Here are the seven standard classifications for plastics, and the recycling and reuse information for each type. PET is one of the most commonly used plastics in consumer products, and is found in most water and pop bottles, and some packaging. It is intended for single use applications; repeated use increases the risk of leaching and bacterial growth. PET plastic is difficult to decontaminate, and proper cleaning requires harmful chemicals. Polyethylene terephthalates may leach carcinogens. PET plastic is recyclable and about 25% of PET bottles in the US today are recycled. The plastic is crushed and then shredded into small flakes which are then reprocessed to make new PET bottles, or spun into polyester fiber. This recycled fiber is used to make textiles such as fleece garments, carpets, stuffing for pillows and life jackets, and similar products. Products made of #1 (PET) plastic should be recycled but not reused. To use less PET plastic, consider switching to reusable beverage containers and replacing disposable food packaging with reusable alternatives. HDPE plastic is the stiff plastic used to make milk jugs, detergent and oil bottles, toys, and some plastic bags. HDPE is the most commonly recycled plastic and is considered one of the safest forms of plastic. It is a relatively simple and cost-effective process to recycle HDPE plastic for secondary use. HDPE plastic is very hard-wearing and does not break down under exposure to sunlight or extremes of heating or freezing. For this reason, HDPE is used to make picnic tables, plastic lumber, waste bins, park benches, bed liners for trucks and other products which require durability and weather-resistance. It is also a popular material for recycled plastic raised garden beds. Products made of HDPE are reusable and recyclable. However, since only about 30-35% of HDPE plastic used in America gets recycled each year, it’s wise to use as little as possible. To cut down, consider replacing your disposable produce bags with reusable alternatives. PVC is a soft, flexible plastic used to make clear plastic food wrapping, cooking oil bottles, teething rings, children’s and pets’ toys, and blister packaging for myriad consumer products. It is commonly used as the sheathing material for computer cables, to make plastic pipes and parts for plumbing, and in garden hoses. Because PVC is relatively impervious to sunlight and weather, it is used to make window frames, garden hoses, arbors, raised beds and trellises. PVC is dubbed the “poison plastic” because it contains numerous toxins which it can leach throughout its entire life cycle. Almost all products using PVC require virgin material for their construction; less than 1% of PVC material is recycled. Products made using PVC plastic are not recyclable. While some PCV products can be repurposed, PVC products should not be reused for applications with food or for children’s use. To avoid items made with PVC plastic, consider replacing plastic food wrap with reusable beeswax wraps; plastic toys with reclaimed wool stuffed animals; and your PVC garden hose with a Drinking Water Safe Garden Hose. LDPE is often found in shrink wraps, dry cleaner garment bags, squeezable bottles, and the type of plastic bags used to package bread. The plastic grocery bags used in most stores today are made using LDPE plastic. Some clothing and furniture also uses this type of plastic. LDPE is considered less toxic than other plastics, and relatively safe for use. It is not commonly recycled, however, although this is changing in many communities today as more plastic recycling programs gear up to handle this material. When recycled, LDPE plastic is used for plastic lumber, landscaping boards, garbage can liners and floor tiles. Products made using recycled LDPE are not as hard or rigid as those made using recycled HDPE plastic. Products made using LDPE plastic are reusable, but not always recyclable. You need to check with your local collection service to see if they are accepting LDPE plastic items for recycling. To cut down on the amount of LDPE that you consume, try replacing your plastic grocery bags with fabric alternatives and taking a cloth bag to your local bakery the next time you buy a loaf of bread. You can also replace plastic sandwich bags with platinum silicone alternatives, which are heat safe. Polypropylene plastic is tough and lightweight, and has excellent heat-resistance qualities. It serves as a barrier against moisture, grease and chemicals. When you try to open the thin plastic liner in a cereal box, it is polypropylene. This keeps your cereal dry and fresh. PP is also commonly used for disposable diapers, pails, plastic bottle tops, margarine and yogurt containers, potato chip bags, straws, packing tape and rope. Polypropylene is recyclable through some curbside recycling programs, but only about 3% of PP products are currently being recycled in the US. Recycled PP is used to make landscaping border stripping, battery cases, brooms, bins and trays. However, #5 plastic is today becoming more accepted by recyclers. PP is considered safe for reuse. To recycle products made from PP, check with your local curbside program to see if they are now accepting this material. To cut down on how much PP you consume, opt for reusable straws instead of plastic ones, reusable water bottles, and cloth diapers. Polystyrene is an inexpensive, lightweight and easily-formed plastic with a wide variety of uses. It is most often used to make disposable foam drinking cups, take-out “clamshell” food containers, egg cartons, plastic picnic cutlery, foam packaging and those ubiquitous “peanut” foam chips used to fill shipping boxes to protect the contents. Polystyrene is also widely used to make rigid foam insulation and underlay sheeting for laminate flooring used in home construction. Because polystyrene is structurally weak and ultra-lightweight, it breaks up easily and is dispersed readily throughout the natural environment. Beaches all over the world have bits of polystyrene lapping at the shores, and an untold number of marine species have ingested this plastic with immeasurable consequences to their health. Polystyrene may leach styrene, a possible human carcinogen, into food products (especially when heated in a microwave). Chemicals present in polystyrene have been linked with human health and reproductive system dysfunction. Recycling is not widely available for polystyrene products. Most curbside collection services will not accept polystyrene, which is why this material accounts for about 35% of US landfill material. While the technology for recycling polystyrene is available, the market for recycling is small. Awareness among consumers has grown, however, and polystyrene is being reused more often. While it is difficult to find a recycler for PS, some businesses like Mailboxes Etc. which provide shipping services are happy to receive foam packing chips for reuse. Polystyrene should be avoided where possible. To eliminate polystyrene from your trash, try a reusable coffee cup, compostable or reusable picnic cutlery, and stainless steel takeaway containers. The #7 category was designed as a catch-all for polycarbonate (PC) and “other” plastics, so reuse and recycling protocols are not standardized within this category. Of primary concern with #7 plastics, however, is the potential for chemical leaching into food or drink products packaged in polycarbonate containers made using BPA (Bisphenol A). BPA is a xenoestrogen, a known endocrine disruptor. Number 7 plastics are used to make baby bottles, sippy cups, water cooler bottles and car parts. BPA is found in polycarbonate plastic food containers often marked on the bottom with the letters “PC” by the recycling label #7. Some polycarbonate water bottles are marketed as ‘non-leaching’ for minimizing plastic taste or odor, however there is still a possibility that trace amounts of BPA will migrate from these containers, particularly if used to heat liquids. A new generation of compostable plastics, made from bio-based polymers like corn starch, is being developed to replace polycarbonates. These are also included in category #7, which can be confusing to the consumer. These compostable plastics have the initials “PLA” on the bottom near the recycling symbol. Some may also say “Compostable.” #7 plastics are not for reuse, unless they have the PLA compostable coding. When possible it is best to avoid #7 plastics, especially for children’s food. Plastics with the recycling labels #1, #2 and #4 on the bottom are safer choices and do not contain BPA. PLA coded plastics should be thrown in the compost and not the recycle bin since PLA compostable plastics are not recyclable. The plastics industry has conformed to regulations by applying the required codes to consumer products, but it is up to individuals to read and understand the codes. By understanding these simple classifications, we can best use plastics to our advantage while minimizing the health and disposal issues that may otherwise arise. To avoid chemicals leaking into your foods from food packaging, try going homemade and storing your leftovers (or your lunches) in platinum silicone or stainless steel. Related: Are There Microplastics in Your Drinking Water? Microbeads: The Smallest Ingredient in Our Plastic Soup Greg Seaman Originally from Long Island, NY, Greg Seaman founded Eartheasy in 2000 out of concern for the environment and a desire to help others live more sustainably. As Editor, Greg combines his upbringing in the cities of New York, Boston and San Francisco with the contrast of 31 years of living ‘off-grid’ to give us a balanced perspective on sustainable living. Greg spends his free time gardening, working on his home and building a wooden sailboat with hand tools. The numbers 1 to 7 found on plastics is not a recycling symbol, but rather a plastic or resin identification code. The number advises what type of plastic the item is made from, but not whether it’s recyclable. Most hard plastics coded 1 to 7 can be recycled in your yellow-lidded recycling bin, however expanded polystyrene foam, number 6, and plastic bags, which are usually number 2 or 4, cannot be recycled through kerbside recycling bins.Here’s a rundown of what each number means:1. Polyethylene terephthalate (PET)PET is commonly used to make water, soft drink and sport drink bottles, as well as condiment bottles and peanut butter and vegemite containers.These items are a rigid/hard plastic and can be recycled through your yellow recycling bin – but lids should be collected in a milk bottle for recycling.2. High density polyethylene (HDPE)HDPE is commonly used to make milk and juice bottles, detergent, shampoo and conditioner bottles, water pipes and grocery bags.Rigid/hard plastic items can be recycled through your yellow recycling bin.Soft plastic items cannot be recycled through your yellow recycling bin and should only be placed in your red/blue landfill bin.3. Polyvinyl chlorine (PVC)PVC is commonly used to make plumbing pipes, clear cordial juice bottles, bubble wrap, children’s toys and play mats, tablecloths and vinyl flooring.Cordial and juice bottles can be recycled through your yellow recycling bin.Toys, soft plastics, mats and flooring cannot be recycled through your yellow recycling bin.4. Low density polyethylene (LDPE)LDPE is commonly used to make bread bags, dry cleaning bags, newspaper bags, produce bags and bin liners, as well as being used as lining in milk cartons and takeaway beverage cups.Soft plastic items cannot be recycled through your yellow recycling bin and should only be placed in your red/blue landfill bin.5. Polypropylene (PP)PP is commonly used to make ice cream containers and lids, yoghurt, margarine and butter tubs, juice bottles, bottle caps, straws, plant pots and plastic takeaway containers.These items are a rigid/hard plastic and can be recycled through your yellow recycling bin – but lids should be collected in a milk bottle for recycling.6. Polystyrene (PS)PS is commonly used to make foam cups and takeaway containers, moulded packaging, packing peanuts and meat trays.These items cannot be recycled through your yellow recycling bin.7. Bisphenol and othersCommonly used to make nylon, safety and prescription glasses, baby milk bottles, headlight lenses, CDs and DVDs, and water cooler bottlesNumber 7 covers a variety of plastics, some of which can be recycled, and some that cannot. Use the Which Bin product search tool find out if the item you’re disposing of is recyclable. HDPE (high-density polyethylene) is a versatile plastic with many uses, especially when it comes to packaging. It carries low risk of leaching and is readily recyclable into many types of goods.♻ Found in: Milk jugs; juice bottles; bleach, detergent and other household cleaner bottles; shampoo bottles; some trash bags and shopping bags; motor oil bottles; butter and yogurt tubs; cereal box liners.♻ How to recycle it: HDPE can be picked up through most curbside recycling programs. Pinsonnault suggests checking if your municipality prefers containers (like household cleaner bottles) to be recycled with or without lids. "The sprayers on spray bottles are unlikely to be recycled in most municipalities because they are often composed of multiple types of plastic and may contain other materials like metal springs," he says. Items like grocery bags and plastic wrap are categorized as film plastics and they usually can't be recycled in a curbside bin, but some stores will collect and recycle them. ♻ Recycled into: Laundry detergent bottles, oil bottles, pens, recycling containers, floor tiles, drainage pipes, lumber, benches, doghouses, picnic tables, fencing and shampoo bottles Plastic is like trees: it’s everywhere, and you know it when you see it, but you probably can’t explain the difference between types. And why would you be able to? Life is complicated enough without having to commit to memory the ways that HDPE differs from LDPE; unless, of course, you work in the plastics recycling industry. At Miller Recycling, plastic is one of the materials we receive and process. It’s also the most complicated material to recycle, in part because consumers don’t know what types can be disposed of and in which ways. A product made of plastic is often stamped with a resin code, which is a number between one and seven inside a small triangle made of arrows. The presence of a resin code doesn’t necessarily mean that the product can be recycled. It’s the number inside the triangle that counts, because each number corresponds to a different type of plastic. 1: PET or PETE (Polyethylene terephthalate) There’s a good chance you’ve held something made of this plastic type today. PET or PETE is what’s used to make bottles for soda, water and other drinks. It’s also used to make cooking oil containers, plastic peanut butter jars and containers for other popular food items. PET/PETE products CAN be recycled. 2: HDPE (High density polyethylene) HDPE plastics are also extremely common. They’re those used to make milk jugs, shampoo bottles, cleaning product containers and detergent bottles. HDPE products CAN be recycled. 3: PVC (Polyvinyl chloride) PVC is a soft, flexible plastic, so it’s used for a huge array of household products. Plastic tubing, kids’ toys, plastic trays and furniture are often made out of PVC. PVC products CANNOT be recycled. 4: LDPE (Low density polyethylene) A lot of plastic wrappings are made of LDPE plastic. It’s also used to make grocery bags and the bags that hold newspapers, sliced bread loaves and fresh produce, among other things. LDPE products CAN SOMETIMES be recycled. 5: PP (Polypropylene) PP is used to make the food containers used for products like yogurt, sour cream and margarine. It’s also made into straws, rope, carpet and bottle caps. PP products CAN SOMETIMES be recycled. 6: PS (Polystyrene) Styrofoam products are made out of PS plastic, so it’s commonly used to make disposable coffee cups, packing peanuts, coolers and to-go food containers. PS products CAN SOMETIMES be recycled. 7: Other Any type of plastic that doesn’t fit into one of the first six categories falls under this heading. Products stamped with a 7 are often made out of multiple plastic types or out of other types of plastic that can’t easily be recycled. #7 products CAN SOMETIMES be recycled. More on Plastics Recycling... Just because a plastic type can be recycled doesn’t mean your local municipality wants you to put it into your recycling bin for collection. It’s not viable for some plastics recycling companies to take hard-to-process plastic products like Styrofoam. Bags made of type 4 plastic, like produce and grocery bags, also shouldn’t be put into recycling bins because they can get tangled in the equipment at recycling facilities. Grocery stores collect these bags for proper plastics recycling. Both individuals and businesses should also bear in mind that here in Massachusetts, the statewide waste ban prohibits the disposal of any single resin narrow-necked bottles (aka, soda bottles) in trash bins. Recycling these containers isn’t just an option: it’s the law. So what does all of that mean for you? A few things: Types 1 and 2 plastics may be tossed into standard recycling bins. Other plastic types may not be permitted in your bin, depending on your municipality’s guidelines. Hard-to-recycle plastics – including Styrofoam, shrink wrap and manufacturing scrap – require specialized handling. Trust your plastics recycling questions to Miller Recycling. Our team can help your business establish an efficient and cost-effective system for recycling plastics, and we pay competitively for large quantities of plastics including hard-to-recycle varieties. We know that plastics recycling can be confusing. We can provide guidance and solutions to all your plastics needs. As always, contact us with questions. , the free encyclopedia that anyone can edit. 117,922 active editors 6,999,800 articles in English Beach on Nosy Komba Nosy Komba is a small volcanic island in Madagascar, situated between Nosy Be and the northwest coast of the main island. The lowlands of the island are divided between secondary forest and a patchwork of farmland and plantations (notably including shade-grown coffee), while the highlands are mainly scrubland, with a bamboo forest in the northern portions. Ampangorina is the main village and administrative center. The island attracts significant ecotourism, thanks in part to its black lemurs. During the early 1800s, the region was heavily settled by Sakalava refugees and their slaves fleeing the hegemony of the Merina. France gained control of the island in 1840 and converted it to a logistic center for the import of indentured servants. Although Nosy Komba hosts a traditionally protected forest and an arboretum established in the colonial era, protection for the latter is essentially unenforced, and illegal logging continues. Only small pockets of old-growth forest remain, in remote areas. (Full article...) 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Ongoing: Gaza war M23 campaign Russian invasion of Ukraine timeline Sudanese civil war timeline Recent deaths: Charles Rangel Jim Irsay Yury Grigorovich Yuri Vladimirov Colton Ford Werenoi Nominate an article May 28: Republic Day in Armenia (1918); Independence Day in Azerbaijan (1918) Mozaffar ad-Din 585 BC – According to the Greek historian Herodotus, a solar eclipse, accurately predicted by Thales of Miletus, abruptly ended the Battle of Halys between the Lydians and the Medes. 1644 – English Civil War: Royalist troops stormed and captured the Parliamentarian stronghold of Bolton, leading to a massacre of defenders and local residents. 1754 – French and Indian War: Led by 22-year-old George Washington, a company of Virginia colonial militiamen ambushed a force of 35 Canadiens at the Battle of Jumonville Glen. 1901 – Mozaffar ad-Din (pictured), Shah of Persia, granted exclusive rights to prospect for oil in the country to William Knox D'Arcy. 1937 – The rise of Neville Chamberlain culminated with his accession as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, being summoned to Buckingham Palace to "kiss hands". 2002 – An independent commission appointed by the Football Association voted two-to-one to allow Wimbledon F.C. to relocate from London to Milton Keynes. Robert Baldock (d. 1327)Francis Gleeson (priest) (b. 1884)Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau (b. 1925)Kylie Minogue (b. 1968) More anniversaries: May 27 May 28 May 29 Archive By email List of days of the year About The Hell Gate Bridge is a railroad bridge in New York City, United States. The bridge carries two tracks of Amtrak's Northeast Corridor and one freight track between Astoria, Queens, and Port Morris, Bronx, via Randalls and Wards Islands. Its main span is a 1,017-foot (310 m) steel through arch across Hell Gate, a strait of the East River that separates Wards Island from Queens. The New York Connecting Railroad began construction of the bridge in 1912, and it opened in 1917. The main span, a two-hinged arch flanked by stone towers on either bank of Hell Gate, was the world's longest steel arch bridge until the Bayonne Bridge opened in 1931. It is one of the few rail connections from Long Island, of which Queens is part, to the rest of the United States. This panoramic photograph shows the main span of the Hell Gate Bridge. The photograph was taken in 2023 looking northeast from the neighboring Robert F. Kennedy Bridge, with Wards Island on the left of the image and Astoria on the right. A tugboat tows a barge in the foreground towards the Hell Gate Bridge. Photograph credit: Rhododendrites Recently featured: Anemonoides blanda Bluespotted ribbontail ray Black Lives Matter art Archive More featured pictures Community portal – The central hub for editors, with resources, links, tasks, and announcements. Village pump – Forum for discussions about Wikipedia itself, including policies and technical issues. Site news – Sources of news about Wikipedia and the broader Wikimedia movement. Teahouse – Ask basic questions about using or editing Wikipedia. Help desk – Ask questions about using or editing Wikipedia. Reference desk – Ask research questions about encyclopedic topics. Content portals – A unique way to navigate the encyclopedia. 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Calendar year Years Millennium 2nd millennium Centuries 19th century 20th century 21st century Decades 1890s 1900s 1910s 1920s 1930s Years 1915 1916 1917 1918 1919 1920 1921 vte 1918 by topic Subject Animation Archaeology Architecture Art Aviation Awards Film Literature Poetry Meteorology Music Jazz Rail transport Radio Science Sports Football Television By country Afghanistan Australia Belgium Brazil Bulgaria Canada China Denmark Finland France Germany Hungary India Ireland Italy Japan Mexico New Zealand Norway Ottoman Syria Palestine (British administered) Philippines Portugal Russia South Africa Spain Sweden Switzerland United Kingdom United States Lists of leaders Sovereign states Sovereign state leaders Territorial governors Religious leaders Law Birth and death categories Births Deaths Establishments and disestablishments categories Establishments Disestablishments Works category Works Introductions vte 1918 in various calendarsGregorian calendar1918MCMXVIIIAb urbe condita2671Armenian calendar1367ԹՎ ՌՅԿԷAssyrian calendar6668Bahá’í calendar74–75Balinese saka calendar1839–1840Bengali calendar1324–1325Berber calendar2868British Regnal year8 Geo. 5 – 9 Geo. 5Buddhist calendar2462Burmese calendar1280Byzantine calendar7426–7427Chinese calendar丁巳年 (Fire Snake)4615 or 4408 — to —戊午年 (Earth Horse)4616 or 4409Coptic calendar1634–1635Discordian calendar3084Ethiopian calendar1910–1911Hebrew calendar5678–5679Hindu calendars - Vikram Samvat1974–1975 - Shaka Samvat1839–1840 - Kali Yuga5018–5019Holocene calendar11918Igbo calendar918–919Iranian calendar1296–1297Islamic calendar1336–1337Japanese calendarTaishō 7(大正７年)Javanese calendar1848–1849Juche calendar7Julian calendarGregorian minus 13 daysKorean calendar4251Minguo calendarROC 7民國7年Nanakshahi calendar450Thai solar calendar2460–2461Tibetan calendar阴火蛇年(female Fire-Snake)2044 or 1663 or 891 — to —阳土马年(male Earth-Horse)2045 or 1664 or 892 Wikimedia Commons has media related to 1918. 1918 (MCMXVIII) was a common year starting on Tuesday of the Gregorian calendar and a common year starting on Monday of the Julian calendar, the 1918th year of the Common Era (CE) and Anno Domini (AD) designations, the 918th year of the 2nd millennium, the 18th year of the 20th century, and the 9th year of the 1910s decade. As of the start of 1918, the Gregorian calendar was 13 days ahead of the Julian calendar, which remained in localized use until 1923. Calendar year The ceasefire that effectively ended the First World War took place on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month of this year. Also in this year, the Spanish flu pandemic killed 50–100 million people worldwide. In Russia, this year runs with only 352 days. As the result of Julian to Gregorian calendar switch, 13 days needed to be skipped. Wednesday, January 31 (Julian Calendar) was immediately followed by Thursday, February 14 (Gregorian Calendar). World War I will be abbreviated as "WWI" February 16: The Act of Independence of Lithuania Main article: January 1918 January – 1918 flu pandemic: The "Spanish flu" (influenza) is first observed in Haskell County, Kansas.[1] January 4 – The Finnish Declaration of Independence is recognized by Soviet Russia, Sweden, Germany and France. January 8 – American president Woodrow Wilson presents the Fourteen Points as a basis for peace negotiations to end the war. January 9 – Battle of Bear Valley: U.S. troops engage Yaqui Native American warriors in a minor skirmish in Arizona. This is one of the last battles of the American Indian Wars between the United States and Native Americans. January 15 The keel of HMS Hermes is laid in Britain, the first purpose-designed aircraft carrier to be laid down. The Red Army (The Workers and Peasants Red Army) is formed in the Russian SFSR and Soviet Union. January 18 – The Historic Concert for the Benefit of Widows and Orphans of Austrian and Hungarian Soldiers is held at the Konzerthaus, Vienna.[2] January 19 – The Russian Constituent Assembly proclaims the Russian Democratic Federative Republic but is dissolved by the Bolshevik government on the same day. January 22 – The Ukrainian People's Republic declares independence from Bolshevik Russia. January 25 – The Third All-Russian Congress of Soviets establishes the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic. January 27 – The Finnish Civil War begins with the Battle of Kämärä. January 28 – Porvenir massacre: Texas Rangers, U.S. Cavalry soldiers and local ranchers kill 15 unarmed Mexican villagers, both men and boys. Main article: February 1918 February 1 – Cattaro Mutiny: Austrian sailors in the Gulf of Cattaro (Kotor), led by two Czech Socialists, mutiny. February 3 – Battle of Oulu February 5 – The SS Tuscania is torpedoed off the Irish coast; it is the first ship carrying American troops to Europe to be torpedoed and sunk. February 23: Estonian Declaration of Independence February 6 – Women's suffrage in the United Kingdom: Representation of the People Act gives most women over 30 the vote.[3] February 10 – Deposed Sultan of the Ottoman Empire Abdul Hamid II dies in Istanbul. February 13 – A magnitude (Mw) 7.2 earthquake shakes the Chinese city of Shantou leaving 1,000 dead and causing a moderate tsunami.[4] February 14 – Russia switches from the Julian calendar to the Gregorian calendar; the date skips from January 31 to February 14. February 16 – The Council of Lithuania adopts the Act of Independence of Lithuania, declaring Lithuania's independence from Germany, Russia or any other state. February 18 – Operations against the Marri and Khetran tribes in Balochistan by British authorities begin. February 19 – WWI: The Capture of Jericho by the Egyptian Expeditionary Force begins the British occupation of the Jordan Valley. February 19–25 – WWI: The Imperial Russian Navy evacuates Tallinn through thick ice, over the Gulf of Finland. February 23 – Estonian Declaration of Independence from Russia, after seven centuries of foreign rule; German forces capture Tallinn the following day. Main article: March 1918 March 1 – WWI: German submarine U-19 sinks HMS Calgarian off Rathlin Island, Northern Ireland. March 3 – WWI: The Central Powers and Bolshevist Russia sign the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk, ending Russia's involvement in the war. March 6 The Finnish Army Corps of Aviation is founded as a forerunner of the Finnish Air Force (established on 4 May 1928). The blue swastika is adopted as its symbol, as a tribute to the Swedish explorer and aviator Eric von Rosen, who donated the first plane. Von Rosen had painted the Viking symbol on the plane as his personal lucky insignia.[5] The first pilotless drone, the Hewitt-Sperry Autom

(d. 2004)[40] Li Yaowen, Chinese politician, general and diplomat (d. 2018) May 4 Kakuei Tanaka, 40th Prime Minister of Japan (d. 1993) Ana Enriqueta Terán, Venezuelan poet (d. 2017) May 6 Henrietta Boggs, Costa Rican-American author, journalist and activist (d. 2020) Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, 1st President of the United Arab Emirates (d. 2004) May 9 Orville Freeman, American politician (d. 2003) Mike Wallace, American journalist (d. 2012) May 11 – Richard Feynman, American physicist, Nobel Prize laureate (d. 1988)[41] May 12 – Julius Rosenberg, American-born Soviet spy (d. 1953) May 15 Eddy Arnold, American country music singer (d. 2008) Joseph Wiseman, Canadian actor (d. 2009)[42] May 16 – Wilf Mannion, English footballer (d. 2000)[43] May 17 – Birgit Nilsson, Swedish soprano (d. 2005)[44] May 19 – Abraham Pais, Dutch-born American physicist (d. 2000) May 20 – Edward B. Lewis, American geneticist, recipient of the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine (d. 2004) May 23 Frank Mancuso, American major league baseball player, politician (d. 2007) Naomi Replansky, American poet (d. 2023) May 27 – Yasuhiro Nakasone, 45th Prime Minister of Japan (d. 2019) May 28 Norbert Franck, Luxembourgish swimmer (d. 2006) Johnny Wayne, Canadian comedian (d. 1990) May 30 – Martin Lundström, Swedish Olympic cross-country skier (d. 2016) May 31 – Margaret Todd, Canadian female golfer (d. 2019) Franco Modigliani June 2 – Kathryn Tucker Windham, American writer, storyteller (d. 2011) June 6 – Edwin G. Krebs, American biochemist, recipient of the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine (d. 2009) June 8 – Robert Preston, American actor (The Music Man) (d. 1987) June 9 – John Hospers, American philosopher (d. 2011) June 10 – Patachou, French singer (d. 2015) June 11 – Hugo Scheltema, Dutch diplomat (d. 1996) June 15 – François Tombalbaye, 1st President of Chad (d. 1975) June 17 Derek Barber, Baron Barber of Tewkesbury, British life peer (d. 2017) Ajahn Chah Subaddho, Buddhist teacher (d. 1992) Raúl Padilla (alias El Chato), Mexican actor (d. 1994) June 18 Jerome Karle, American chemist, Nobel Prize laureate (d. 2013) Franco Modigliani, Italian-born economist, Nobel Memorial Prize laureate (d. 2003) Ángel Martín Taboas, Puerto Rican-American politician (d. 2023) June 21 Allan Lindberg, Swedish pole vaulter (d. 2004) Tibor Szele, Hungarian mathematician (d. 1955) Josephine Webb, American engineer (d. 2017) June 22 Cicely Saunders, English Anglican nurse, social worker, physician and writer (d. 2005)[45] Yeoh Ghim Seng, Singaporean politician, acting President of Singapore (d. 1993) June 24 Myroslav Ivan Lubachivsky, Ukrainian Catholic bishop (d. 2000) Yong Nyuk Lin, Singaporean politician (d. 2012) June 26 Ellen Liiger, Estonian actress (d. 1987) Leo Rosner, Polish-born Austrian Jewish musician (d. 2008) June 27 Willy Breinholst, Danish humorist, writer (d. 2009) Adolph Kiefer, American Olympic swimmer (d. 2017)[46] June 29 – Heini Lohrer, Swiss ice hockey player (d. 2011) June 30 – Jackie Roberts, Welsh footballer (d. 2001) Ingmar Bergman Bertram Brockhouse Nelson Mandela Paul D. Boyer July 1 Ahmed Deedat, South African writer, public speaker (d. 2005) Pedro Yap, Filipino lawyer (d. 2003) July 2 Athos Bulcão, Brazilian painter, sculptor (d. 2008) Indumati Bhattacharya, Indian politician (d. 1990) July 3 – Lorenzo Robledo, Spanish actor (d. 2006) July 4 King Tāufa'āhau Tupou IV of Tonga (d. 2006) Alec Bedser, English cricketer (d. 2010) Eric Bedser, English cricketer (d. 2006) July 5 Zakaria Mohieddin, Egyptian general, politician (d. 2012) Nikos Papatakis, Greek Ethiopian-born naturalised French filmmaker (d. 2010) Miguel Ángel Sanz Bocos, Spanish fighter pilot (d. 2018) July 6 Sebastian Cabot, English actor (d. 1977) Francisco Moncion, Dominican-American dancer, charter member of New York City Ballet (d. 1995) July 7 – Jing Shuping, Chinese businessman (d. 2009) July 8 Paul B. Fay, American businessman, soldier, and diplomat, 12th United States Secretary of the Navy (d. 2009) Oluf Reed-Olsen, Norwegian resistance member, pilot (d. 2002) July 9 – Jarl Wahlström, Salvation Army general (d. 1999) July 12 – Mary Glen-Haig, British Olympic fencer (d. 2014) July 13 Alberto Ascari, Italian racing driver (d. 1955) Ted Oldfield, English footballer (d. 2006) July 14 T. M. Aluko, Nigerian writer (d. 2010)[47] Ingmar Bergman, Swedish film director (d. 2007[48]) Jay Wright Forrester, American computer scientist (d. 2016)[49] July 15 Paddy Bassett, New Zealand scientist (d. 2019) Bertram Brockhouse, Canadian physicist, Nobel Prize laureate (d. 2003) Brenda Milner, Canadian neuropsychologist July 16 Bayani Casimiro, Filipino dancer and actor (d. 1989) Pituka de Foronda, Spanish actress (d. 1999) July 17 – Carlos Manuel Arana Osorio, 35th President of Guatemala (d. 2003) July 18 Lia Dorana, Dutch comedian, actress (d. 2010) Nelson Mandela, 1st President of South Africa and recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize (d. 2013)[50] July 20 – Auður Laxness, Icelandic writer, craftsperson (d. 2012) July 21 – Elsa Kobberstad, Norwegian schoolteacher, politician (d. 2007) July 22 – Lila Zali, Georgian-born American prima ballerina (d. 2003) July 24 Antonio Candido, Brazilian literary critic, sociologist (d. 2017) Ruggiero Ricci, Italian-born violinist (d. 2012) July 27 – Leonard Rose, American cellist (d. 1984) July 28 – Penaia Ganilau, 1st President of Fiji (d. 1993) July 29 – Edwin O'Connor, American novelist, Pulitzer Prize for Fiction winner (d. 1968) July 31 Vicente Almeida d'Eça, Portuguese colonial administrator (d. 2018) Paul D. Boyer, American chemist, Nobel Prize laureate (d. 2018) Hank Jones, American pianist (d. 2010)[51] Bruria Kaufman Frederick Sanger Shankar Dayal Sharma Leonard Bernstein Katherine Johnson Aslam Khan Alejandro Agustín Lanusse August 1 Artur Brauner, German film producer and entrepreneur (d. 2019) Zhou Xuan, Chinese singer, actress (d. 1957) August 2 – Dada Vaswani, Indian spiritual leader (d. 2018) August 3 – Cheng Kaijia, Chinese nuclear physicist and engineer (d. 2018) August 4 – Noel Willman, Irish actor (d. 1988) August 5 Kondapalli Koteswaramma, Indian communist leader, feminist, revolutionary and writer (d. 2018) Betty Oliphant, co-founder of National Ballet of Canada (d. 2004) August 12 – Guy Gibson, British bomber pilot, leader of the "Dam Busters" raid (d. 1944) August 13 Noor Hassanali, 2nd President of Trinidad and Tobago (d. 2006) Frederick Sanger, English biochemist, double Nobel Prize laureate (d. 2013) August 19 – Shankar Dayal Sharma, 9th President of India (d. 1999) August 20 – Crystal Bennett, British archaeologist, pioneering researcher on Jordan (d. 1987) August 21 – Bruria Kaufman, American-born Israeli physicist (d. 2010) August 22 Said Mohamed Djohar, President of the Comoros (d. 2006) Martin Pope, American physical chemist (d. 2022) August 23 – Bernard Fisher, American surgeon (d. 2019) August 25 – Leonard Bernstein, American composer, conductor (d. 1990) August 26 Katherine Johnson, African-American physicist, space scientist and mathematician (d. 2020)[52] Maria Isaura Pereira de Queiróz, Brazilian sociologist (d. 2018) August 27 Aslam Khan, British Indian-born military officer, led his troops during World War II in capturing Kennedy Peak (Myanmar), which the Americans had failed to conquer. For this achievement, he was awarded the Military Cross by Field Marshal Auchinleck (d. 1994)[53] Chang Yun Chung, Chinese-born billionaire shipping magnate (d. 2020) Jelle Zijlstra, Dutch politician, Prime Minister of the Netherlands from 1966 to 1967 (d. 2001) August 28 – Alejandro Agustín Lanusse, 37th President of Argentina (d. 1996) August 29 – Clemens C. J. Roothaan, Dutch physicist (d. 2019) August 30 – Ted Williams, American baseball player (d. 2002) August 31 – Alan Jay Lerner, American lyricist, librettist (d. 1986) Chaim Herzog September 1 – Phyllis Wallbank, English educationalist (d. 2020) September 3 – Helen Wagner, American soap opera actress (d. 2010) September 4 – Gerald Wilson, American jazz trumpeter (d. 2014) September 6 – Ludwig Hörmann, German cyclist (d. 2001) September 8 – Derek Barton, British chemist, Nobel Prize laureate (d. 1998) September 9 – Oscar Luigi Scalfaro, 9th President of Italy (d. 2012) September 13 – Ray Charles, American musician, singer and songwriter (d. 2015) September 14 – James George, Canadian diplomat (d. 2020) September 15 – Nipsey Russell, American comedian, poet, and dancer (d. 2005) September 16 – Ismail Mohamed Ali, Malaysian politician (d. 1998) September 17 – Chaim Herzog, 6th President of Israel 1983–1993 (d. 1997) September 19 – Joseph Zeller, American politician (d. 2018) September 22 – Henryk Szeryng, Polish-born violinist (d. 1988) September 24 – Emerante Morse, Haitian singer, dancer and folklorist (d. 2018) September 26 – Peng Chang-kuei, Taiwanese chef (d. 2016) September 27 – Martin Ryle, English radio astronomer, recipient of the Nobel Prize in Physics (d. 1984) September 28 Ángel Labruna, Argentine soccer player, manager (d. 1983) Ida Schuster, Scottish actress (d. 2020) Arnold Stang, American comic actor (d. 2009) September 30 Giovanni Canestri, Italian cardinal (d. 2015) Aldo Parisot, Brazilian-American cellist and educator (d. 2018) Jens Christian Skou Robert Walker Rita Hayworth Thelma Coyne Long October 4 – Kenichi Fukui, Japanese chemist, Nobel Prize laureate (d. 1998) October 6 – Goh Keng Swee, former Deputy Prime Minister of Singapore (d. 2010) October 8 – Jens Christian Skou, Danish chemist, Nobel Prize laureate (d. 2018) October 9 E. Howard Hunt, American Watergate break-in coordinator (d. 2007) Bebo Valdés, Cuban pianist, bandleader, composer and arranger (d. 2013) October 10 – Gaston Mialaret, French pedagogist and professor (d. 2016) October 13 Jack MacGowran, Irish film actor (d. 1973) Robert Walker, American actor (d. 1951) October 14 – Thelma Coyne Long, Australian tennis player (d. 2015) October 16 Louis Althusser, French philosopher (d. 1990) Géori Boué, French operatic singer (d. 2017) Henri Vernes, Belgian author (d. 2021) October 17 – Rita Hayworth, American actress (d. 1987) October 18 Konstantinos Mitsotakis, former Greek Prime Minister (d. 2017) Bobby Troup, American singer-songwriter and actor, known for his role in Emergency! (d. 1999) October 19 – Robert S. Strauss, American politician, Democratic National Committee Chairman (d. 2014) October 22 – René de Obaldia, French playwright and poet (d. 2022) October 23 – Augusta Dabney, American actress (d. 2008) October 25 Francisco Griéguez, Spanish WWII soldier (d. 2018) Milton Selzer, American actor (d. 2006) October 26 – Marc Hodler, Swiss lawyer (d. 2006) October 27 Mihkel Mathiesen, Estonian statesman (d. 2003) Teresa Wright, American actress (d. 2005) October 29 – Diana Serra Cary, American actress (d. 2020) October 31 – Ian Stevenson, American parapsychologist (d. 2007) Billy Graham Spiro Agnew November 1 – Ken Miles, British sports car racing engineer and driver (d. 1966) November 2 – Raimon Panikkar, Spanish theologian (d. 2010) November 3 – Russell B. Long, United States Senator from Louisiana (d. 2003) November 4 Art Carney, American actor, best known for his role in The Honeymooners (d. 2003) Cameron Mitchell, American actor (d. 1994) November 7 Paul Aussaresses, French general (d. 2013) Billy Graham, American evangelist, spiritual adviser to several U.S. Presidents (d. 2018) November 8 Teoh Seng Khoon, Malaysian badminton player (d. 2018) Hermann Zapf, German typeface designer (d. 2015) November 9 Spiro Agnew, Vice president of the United States (d. 1996) Choi Hong Hi, South Korean general, martial artist (d. 2002) Su Beng, Taiwanese dissident and political activist (d. 2019) November 10 – Ernst Otto Fischer, German chemist, Nobel Prize laureate (d. 2007) November 14 – John Bromwich, Australian tennis player (d. 1999) November 15 – Vittore Bocchetta, Italian sculptor, painter and academic (d. 2021) November 18 – Nicolás Kingman Riofrío, Ecuadorian journalist, writer and politician (d. 2018) November 26 – Patricio Aylwin, 32nd President of Chile (d. 2016) November 27 – Borys Paton, Ukrainian scientist (d. 2020) November 29 – Madeleine L'Engle, American author (d. 2007) November 30 – Efrem Zimbalist Jr., American actor (d. 2014)[54] Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn Kurt Waldheim Helmut Schmidt Anwar Sadat December 3 – Abdul Haris Nasution, Indonesian general (d. 2000) December 7 Jórunn Viðar, Icelandic pianist, composer (d. 2017) Liu Yichang, Hong Kong writer and novelist (d. 2018) December 8 – Gérard Souzay, French baritone (d. 2004) December 10 – Anatoly Tarasov, Russian ice-hockey player and coach (d. 1995) Fergus Anckorn December 11 – Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, Russian writer, Nobel Prize laureate (d. 2008) December 12 – Joe Williams, American jazz singer (d. 1999) December 13 – Rosalia Lombardo, Italian child known as The Sleeping Beauty (d. 1920)[55] December 14 – B. K. S. Iyengar, Indian yoga teacher (d. 2014) December 15 – Jeff Chandler, American actor (d. 1961) December 17 Dusty Anderson, American actress and model (d. 2007) Duchess Woizlawa Feodora of Mecklenburg, German royal (d. 2019) December 18 – Joyce Reynolds, English classicist and academic (d. 2022) December 21 Francisco Miró Quesada Cantuarias, Peruvian philosopher (d. 2019) Fred Gloden, American football player (d. 2019) Donald Regan, American Treasury Secretary, White House Chief of Staff (d. 2003) Kurt Waldheim, President of Austria, Secretary-General of the United Nations (d. 2007)[56] December 23 José Greco, Italian-born flamenco dancer (d. 2000) Kumar Pallana, Indian actor (d. 2013) Helmut Schmidt, Chancellor of Germany (d. 2015) December 24 – Dave Bartholomew, American musician, songwriter and music producer (d. 2019) December 25 Bertie Mee, English football player, manager (d. 2001) Anwar Sadat, 3rd President of Egypt, recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize (d. 1981) December 26 – Georgios Rallis, Prime Minister of Greece (d. 2006) December 30 – W. Eugene Smith, American photojournalist (d. 1978) Abd an-Nabi Abd al-Qadir Mursal, Sudanese poet and politician (d. 1962)[57] Georg Cantor María Dolores Rodríguez Sopeña January 2 – Katharine A. O'Keeffe O'Mahoney, Irish-born American teacher and writer (b. 1855) January 6 – Georg Cantor, German mathematician (b. 1845) January 8 Johannes Pääsuke, Estonian photographer, filmmaker (b. 1892) Ellis H. Roberts, American politician (b. 1827) January 9 Max Ritter von Müller, German World War I fighter ace (killed in action) (b. 1887) Charles-Émile Reynaud, French inventor (b. 1844) January 10 – María Dolores Rodríguez Sopeña, Spanish Roman Catholic religious sister and Blessed (b. 1848) January 21 – Emil Jellinek, German automobile entrepreneur (b. 1853) January 26 – Grand Duke Nicholas Konstantinovich of Russia (b. 1850) January 28 – John McCrae, Canadian soldier, surgeon and poet (b. 1872) January 31 – Ivan Puluj, Ukrainian physicist and inventor (b. 1845) Princess Leonilla Bariatinskaya Gustav Klimt Sultan Abdul Hamid II February 1 – Princess Leonilla Bariatinskaya, Russian aristocrat (b. 1816) February 2 – John L. Sullivan, American boxer, World Heavyweight Champion (b. 1858) February 4 – Akiyama Saneyuki, Japanese admiral (b. 1868) February 6 – Gustav Klimt, Austrian painter (b. 1862), Spanish flu February 8 – Louis Renault, French jurist, educator and Nobel Prize laureate (b. 1843) February 10 Sultan Abdul Hamid II of the Ottoman Empire (b. 1842) Ernesto Teodoro Moneta, Italian pacifist, Nobel Prize laureate (b. 1833) February 11 – Alexey Kaledin, Russian general (suicide) (b. 1861) February 14 – Sir Cecil Spring Rice, British diplomat (b. 1859) February 15 – Vernon Castle, British-born American dancer (b. 1887) February 16 – Károly Khuen-Héderváry, 2-time Prime Minister of Hungary (b. 1849) February 23 Adolphus Frederick VI, Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz (b. 1882) Thomas Brassey, 1st Earl Brassey, British politician and colonial administrator (b. 1836) Claude Debussy Martin Sheridan March 2 – Prince Mirko of Montenegro (b. 1879) March 9 – Frank Wedekind, German playwright (b. 1864) March 10 – Hans-Joachim Buddecke, German flying ace (killed in action) (b. 1890) March 13 – César Cui, Lithuanian composer (b. 1835) March 14 Lucretia Garfield, First Lady of the United States (b. 1832) Gennaro Rubino, Italian anarchist who unsuccessfully tried to assassinate King Leopold II of Belgium (b. 1859) March 15 – Adolf Ritter von Tutschek, German fighter ace (killed in action) (b. 1891) March 23 – T. P. Cameron Wilson, English poet, novelist (b. 1888) March 25 Claude Debussy, French composer (b. 1862) Walter Tull, first Black infantry officer to serve in the British Army (b. 1888) March 27 Henry Adams, American historian (b. 1838) Martin Sheridan, American Olympic athlete (b. 1881), Spanish flu Karl Ferdinand Braun Manfred von Richthofen Gavrilo Princip April 1 Isaac Rosenberg, British war poet (killed in action) (b. 1890) Paul von Rennenkampf, Russian general (executed) (b. 1854) April 4 – Hermann Cohen, German philosopher (b. 1842) April 5 – King George Tupou II of Tonga (b. 1874) April 11 – Otto Wagner, Austro-Hungarian architect, urban planner (b. 1841) April 19 – William Hope Hodgson, English author (b. 1877)[58] April 20 Jussi Merinen, Finnish politician (executed) (b. 1873)[59] Karl Ferdinand Braun, German physicist, Nobel Prize laureate (b. 1850) Paul Gautsch von Frankenthurn, Austrian statesman, Prime Minister (b. 1851) April 21 Friedrich II, Duke of Anhalt (b. 1856) Manfred von Richthofen, German fighter pilot, top-scoring ace of World War I (killed in action) (b. 1892) April 27 – Jacques Duchesne, French general (b. 1837) April 28 – Gavrilo Princip, Yugoslav assassin (b. 1894) Maria Magdalena Merten May 2 Ernie Parker, Australian tennis champion (killed in action) (b. 1883) Jüri Vilms, Estonian politician (b. 1889) May 14 – James Gordon Bennett Jr., American newspaper publisher (b. 1841) May 17 – William Drew Robeson I, African-American minister, father of singer and actor Paul Robeson (b. 1844) May 18 – Blandine Merten, German nun and Blessed (b. 1883) May 19 Ferdinand Hodler, Swiss painter (b. 1853) Raoul Lufbery, Franco-American fighter pilot (killed in action) (b. 1885) May 21 Sofia Hjulgrén, Finnish politician (executed) (b. 1875)[60] Wilho Laine, Finnish politician (executed) (b. 1875)[61] May 23 Gerard Noel, British admiral (b. 1845) [62] Mariano Ponce, Filipino diplomat, politician and writer (b. 1863) May 24 – József Kiss, Austro-Hungarian fighter pilot (killed in action) (b. 1896) May 30 – Georgi Plekhanov, Russian revolutionary, philosopher (b. 1856) Kyrion II of Georgia June 1 – Roderic Dallas, Australian fighter pilot (killed in action) (b. 1891) June 3 – Count Richard von Bienerth-Schmerling, Austrian noble, statesman and former Prime Minister (b. 1863) June 4 – Charles W. Fairbanks, 26th Vice President of the United States (b. 1852) June 10 – Arrigo Boito, Italian poet, composer (b. 1842) June 13 – Grand Duke Michael Romanov (assassinated) (b. 1878) June 15 – Frank Miles Day, American architect (b. 1861) June 16 – Bazil Assan, Romanian engineer and explorer (b. 1860) June 19 – Francesco Baracca, Italian fighter pilot (air crash) (b. 1888) June 26 – Kyrion II of Georgia, Georgian Orthodox patriarch, Saint (b. 1855) June 27 – Joséphin Péladan, French occultist (b. 1858) Sultan Mehmed V James McCudden Quentin Roosevelt Emperor Nicholas II of Russia Henry Macintosh July 3 – Sultan Mehmed V of the Ottoman Empire (b. 1844) July 9 – James McCudden, British fighter pilot (air crash) (b. 1895) July 14 – Quentin Roosevelt, youngest son of United States President Theodore Roosevelt, fighter pilot (killed in action) (b. 1897) July 17 – Executed members of the Romanov family: Former Emperor Nicholas II of Russia (b. 1868) Former Empress Alexandra Feodorovna of Russia (b. 1872) Grand Duchess Olga Nikolaevna of Russia (b. 1895) Grand Duchess Tatiana Nikolaevna of Russia (b. 1897) Grand Duchess Maria Nikolaevna of Russia (b. 1899) Grand Duchess Anastasia Nikolaevna of Russia (b. 1901) Former Tsarevich Alexei Nikolaevich of Russia (b. 1904) July 18 Prince Constantine Constantinovich of Russia (executed) (b. 1891) Prince Igor Constantinovich of Russia (executed) (b. 1894) Grand Duke Sergei Mikhailovich of Russia (executed) (b. 1869) Grand Duchess Elisabeth of Russia (Princess Elisabeth of Hesse and by Rhine) (executed) (b. 1864) July 20 – Francis Lupo, American soldier (b. 1895) July 22 Roy Earl Parrish, American politician (killed in action) (b. 1888) Manuel González Prada, Peruvian politician, author (b. 1844) Indra Lal Roy, Indian fighter pilot (killed in action) (b. 1898) Alexey Schastny, Russian naval officer (executed) (b. 1881) July 26 Henry Macintosh, British Olympic athlete (killed in action) (b. 1892) Edward Mannock, British fighter pilot (killed in action) (b. 1887) July 29 – Ernest William Christmas, Australian painter (b. 1863) July 30 Hermann von Eichhorn, German field marshal (assassinated) (b. 1848) Joyce Kilmer, American journalist, poet (killed in action) (b. 1886) Frank Linke-Crawford, Austro-Hungarian fighter pilot (killed in action) (b. 1893) July 31 – George McElroy, British fighter pilot (killed in action) (b. 1893) Marianne Cope August 1 John Riley Banister, American policeman, cowboy (b. 1854) Gabriel Guérin, French World War I fighter ace (air crash) (b. 1892) August 5 – Peter Strasser, German naval officer, airship commander (killed in action) (b. 1876) August 9 Marianne Cope, German-born American Roman Catholic nun and saint (b. 1838) František Plesnivý, Austro-Hungarian architect (b. 1845) August 10 Jean Brillant, Canadian soldier, Victoria Cross recipient (killed in action) (b. 1890) Erich Löwenhardt, German World War I fighter ace (air crash) (b. 1897) Aleksander Uurits, Estonian painter, graphic artist (b. 1888) August 12 – Anna Held, French actress (b. 1872) August 22 – Korbinian Brodmann, German neurologist (b. 1868)[63] August 30 – William Duncan, British missionary in Canada and the United States (b. 1832) George Reid Eduard, Duke of Anhalt Prince Erik, Duke of Vastmanland Mudbir al-Far'un, Arab chieftain, leader of 1913 Euphrates rebellion September 2 – Sir John Forrest, Australian explorer and politician, 1st Premier of Western Australia (b. 1847) September 5 – Nikolay Maklakov, Russian politician, former minister of the Interior (b. 1871) September 6 – Elizabeth Yates, New Zealand politician (b. 1845) September 8 Francis Mary of the Cross Jordan, German Roman Catholic priest and venerable (b. 1848) Mikael of Wollo, Ethiopian army commander and Ras of Wollo (b. 1850) September 12 – Sir George Reid, 4th Prime Minister of Australia (b. 1845) September 13 – Eduard, Duke of Anhalt (b. 1861) September 16 – Maurice Boyau, French World War I fighter ace (killed in action) (b. 1888) September 18 – Joseph Frank Wehner, American World War I fighter ace (killed in action) (b. 1895)[64] September 20 – Prince Erik, Duke of Västmanland (b. 1889), Spanish flu September 27 – Fritz Rumey, German World War I fighter ace (killed in action) (b. 1891) September 28 True Boardman, American actor (b. 1882), Spanish flu Georg Simmel, German sociologist, philosopher (b. 1858) Freddie Stowers, American soldier (killed in action) (b. 1896) September 29 – Frank Luke, American World War I fighter ace (killed in action) (b. 1897) October 4 – Nikolai Skrydlov, Russian admiral (b. 1844) October 5 Roland Garros, French fighter pilot (killed in action) (b. 1888) Robbie Ross, British writer (b. 1869) October 6 – Arthur O'Hara Wood, Australian tennis champion and fighter pilot (killed in action) (b. 1890) October 7 – Sir Hubert Parry, British composer (b. 1848), Spanish flu October 8 – Mikhail Alekseyev, Russian general (b. 1857) October 9 – Raymond Duchamp-Villon, French sculptor (b. 1876) October 11 – Wallace Lloyd Algie, Canadian soldier (killed in action) (b. 1891) October 15 – Sai Baba of Shirdi, Indian guru, yogi and National saint of India (b. 1838) October 16 – Felix Arndt, American pianist, composer (b. 1889), Spanish flu October 18 Radko Dimitriev, Bulgarian, Russian general (executed) (b. 1859) Jildo Irwa, Ugandan Roman Catholic martyr and saint (executed) (b. 1906) Daudo Okelo, Ugandan Roman Catholic martyr and saint (executed) (b. ca. 1900) Nikolai Ruzsky, Russian general (executed) (b. 1854) October 19 Harold Lockwood, American actor (b. 1887), Spanish flu Prince Umberto, Count of Salemi (b. 1889), Spanish flu October 24 César Ritz, Swiss hotelier (b. 1850) Daniel Burley Woolfall, English administrator, 2nd President of FIFA (b. 1852) October 25 – Amadeo de Souza Cardoso, Portuguese painter (b. 1887), Spanish flu October 29 Michel Coiffard, French World War I fighter ace (killed in action) (b. 1892) Rudolf Tobias, Estonian composer (b. 1873) October 31 Egon Schiele, Austrian artist (b. 1890), Spanish flu István Tisza, 2-time Prime Minister of Hungary (assassinated) (b. 1861) Wilfred Owen November 1 – Vladimir Vasilyevich Smirnov, Russian general (executed) (b. 1849) November 2 – Hugh Cairns, Canadian soldier (b. 1896) November 4 Wilfred Owen, British poet, soldier (killed in action) (b. 1893) Andrew Dickson White, American academic and diplomat, co-founder of Cornell University (b. 1832) November 5 Samuel Liddell MacGregor Mathers, British occultist (b. 1854), Spanish flu William Shea, British actor (b. 1856) November 6 – Alan Arnett McLeod, Canadian soldier (b. 1899), Spanish flu November 9 Guillaume Apollinaire, French poet (b. 1880), Spanish flu Albert Ballin, German shipping magnate (b. 1857) Sir Peter Lumsden, British general in the Indian Army (b. 1829) November 11 Victor Adler, Austrian politician (b. 1852) George Lawrence Price, last Commonwealth soldier to die in WWI (b. 1892) November 12 – Aleksei Evert, Russian general (executed) (b. 1857; may have died in 1926) November 14 – Matti Lonkainen, Finnish politician (b. 1874)[65] November 15 – Sir Robert Anderson, British police officer (b. 1841), Spanish flu November 19 – Joseph F. Smith, 6th President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (b. 1838) November 20 – John Bauer, Swedish painter (b. 1882) November 22 – Rose Cleveland, de facto First Lady of the United States (b. 1846), Spanish flu November 23 – Fritz von Below, German general (b. 1853) November 30 – Karl Petrovich Jessen, Russian admiral (b. 1852) Sidónio Pais Sultan Ali bin Hamud of Zanzibar December 2 – Edmond Rostand, French writer (b. 1868), Spanish flu December 4 – Princess Teriivaetua of Tahiti (b. 1869), Spanish flu December 5 – Schalk Willem Burger, Boer military leader, lawyer, politician, statesman, and acting President of the South African Republic (1900-1902) (b. 1852) December 9 – Samuel Swett Green, American library pioneer (b. 1837) December 11 – Ivan Cankar, Slovenian writer (b. 1876), Spanish flu December 13 – Emory Speer, American politician, jurist, and United States district judge from 1885 until 1918 (b. 1848) December 14 – Sidónio Pais, Portuguese politician, general, diplomat, 66th Prime Minister of Portugal and 4th President of Portugal (b. 1872), assassinated December 20 – Sultan Ali bin Hamud of Zanzibar (b. 1884) December 21 – Prince Konrad of Hohenlohe-Waldenburg-Schillingsfürst, Austrian statesman, former Prime Minister (b. 1863) December 28 – Olavo Bilac, Brazilian poet (b. 1865) Spring – Vyacheslav Troyanov, Russian general (b. 1875) Yakov Zhilinsky, Russian general (b. 1853) Physics – Max Planck Chemistry – Fritz Haber[66] Medicine – not awarded Literature – not awarded Peace – not awarded ^ Barry, John M. 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up the systems of recycling and make the whole process a lot more complicated. Make sure you remove things like receipts, stickers from fruit, and food scraps before dropping off plastic bags at a recycling location. Collect at home: Keep a garbage bag collection going at your home so that you save time and are more likely to recycle your plastic bags. For example, you will fit 50 to 100 plastic grocery bags in one garbage bag, so you might only turn them in every few months. Reuse when you can: Even if you plan to recycle your plastic bags, you always reuse the bag for other purposes or go back to the grocery store. Ensure they are #2 or #4 bags: Only #2 and #4 plastic bags get accepted for recycling. If you are uncertain about the plastic polymer used in the material of your plastic bag, simply reuse it as much as you can before depositing it into the garbage. #5 PP This is one of the more robust and heavy-duty plastics that are recyclable. #5 polypropylene gets used in many household objects such as furniture, luggage, and toys. Additionally, #5 polypropylene plastic products are also used for heavy-duty products such as bumpers on cars and plastic linings on vehicles. Everything from lab equipment for scientists to Tupperware containers that resist the heat of your microwave gets made of #5 PP plastic. There are many reasons why we use #5 PP plastic so much for heavy-duty products and these include: Resisting abrasive chemicals such as alkalis, most solvents, and even acids It is lightweight and strong It insulates electrical wiring and other electrical products very well and safely. Resists moisture incredibly well Very high melting point and excellent heat resistance without melting Since #5 PP plastic materials are challenging to recycle, there are several ways of reducing and reusing this robust plastic. Some of the best ways of reducing and reusing #5 PP plastics are: Don't use single-serve food containers: Try not to use plastic #5 propylene products for food such as cups, plates, utensils, and straws. Eco-tableware that gets made from wood, bamboo, or palm leaves works just as well and is environmentally friendly. Use cloth diapers: Single-use diapers are made from #5 PP plastic materials and are a single-use item that you could go without if you used cloth diapers. Make your own food products: Not only is making your food products healthy, but it helps reduce the number of #5 plastic bottles you consume. Things like hot sauces, yogurt, and condiments are stored in plastic containers and could get made at home. Make Tupperware last: Read the instructions from Tupperware manufacturers so that you ensure that the Tupperware in your home stays usable for as long as possible. Buy recycled: Buy products that are packaged with recycled materials or made from recycled materials whenever you can. Polypropylene #5 plastic is recyclable, but only for particular items. Generally, bulky items like furniture require a unique recycling center for deposit. Whereas other items like Tupperware are more likely recyclable at your local recycling center. #6 PS #6 PS plastic is called polystyrene and is often the plastic polymer used in single-serve food products. Items such as straws, plastic utensils, and foam clamshell food containers often get made from #6 PS plastic. However, #5 plastics usually get used for these single-serve products more often. One of the most common uses for #6 PS plastic is in packaging. For example, styrofoam is the soft version of #6 PS plastic, and it gets found in great abundance all across the globe. Unfortunately, this styrofoam is not easily recyclable, mainly because it is delicate and breaks apart easily. In addition, the small pieces of styrofoam are incredibly hard to manage and seriously contribute to plastic pollution in marine life. This problem plastic is one of the worst for recoverability, meaning that even if your local recycler accepts this plastic, it is most likely thrown in the landfill anyway. #6 Polystyrene is even banned by many restaurants so that they get a certification of being environmentally conscious businesses. Furthermore, there are very few options for the #6 plastics at a recycling center, which is why they are usually sorted out from the rest of the plastic materials and then sent overseas. These overseas recycling centers do one of the following with #6 plastics: Melt them down in #7 products Sorted out further for some recoverable plastic products Burned as fuel and heat Smaller pieces are too small and usually mixed, so they end up in the landfill Read More: Can You Recycle Candle Jars And Containers? (Guide)There have even been recalls on #6 plastics that have restaurants and other businesses eliminating the use of these plastics in their products. #7 OTHER The #7 Other plastic is a name for all other plastic types that may be recyclable and are not under the designation of the numbers one through six plastic polymer types. Furthermore, #7 Other plastics include materials of plastic such as nylon and polycarbonate. These plastics are difficult to determine if they are recyclable or not since there are so many different plastics under this number seven designation for recycling. However, these polycarbonate materials under the #7 recycling designation are everywhere in our lives. For example, some of the most common #7 Other plastic products in the world include: 3D printing materials Bulletproof glass CDs and DVDs Glasses, lenses, and other eyewear Greenhouse domes Guards for heavy-duty machinery Many different parts of cars, including dashboards, headlights, and sunroofs Medical devices like respirators and dialysis machines Powertool housings and casings Protective equipment such as padding and goggles Roofing shingles and sheets Sneezeguards The applications of #7 Other plastics are virtually limitless because they are strong, and, unlike many other plastic polymers on this list, they are clear or see-through. In addition, the fact that light passes through many #7 Other plastics means that these products generally have long life spans and are usually not single-use products. Making Plastics Identification Easier The chart below has a list of the names for each of the seven plastics along with the everyday products that are often made from them: Number Plastic Material Name Everyday Products Made from Plastic Type 1 Polyethylene Terephthalate Soft drink bottles, water bottles, fruit juice containers, cooking oil containers, other cooking ingredient containers 2 High-density polyethylene Milk jugs, plastic spray bottles, laundry detergent containers, bleaching agents, shampoo, body wash, and conditioner bottles 3 Polyvinyl chloride Thin plastic sweets trays or fruit trays, clamshells, plastic wrapping like bubble wrap, most food containers 4 Low-density polyethylene Crushed bottles, shopping bags, most wrappings, highly resistant bags 5 Polypropylene Furniture, consumers, luggage, bumpers, toys, lining, and external linings of cars 6 Polystyrene Toys, hard packing, refrigerator trays, cosmetic bags, costume jewelry, CD cases, vending cups 7 BPA, Polycarbonate, and LEXAN Acrylics, fiberglass, polycarbonate containers, nylon, etc. The Plastics That Cannot Be Recycled Plastics seem like they are all recyclable. However, some plastic polymer materials have no recyclable value. These items include things like: Foams Cereal bags And anything without the recycling symbols printed on them Virtually all plastic garbage bags are non-recyclable, and even plastics that are soiled are not recyclable. Therefore, the reason that many plastics are not recyclable is that they are not reusable. These non-recyclable plastics get produced using a method that creates a lifelong bond between the plastic polymer bond. This bond, known as a cross-bond, doesn't break down and melt for reuse and won't create new material no matter how hot it gets. In the end, polymer bonds such as this stay in the ecosystem and cannot get recycled into other products or materials. Styrofoam The rule with plastics is that if it does not have a recycling symbol and number, it is not recyclable. So any plastic without a number in an arrowed triangle is an obvious sign that the plastic is not recyclable. However, this plastic recycling symbol and the associated number system are based on the idea that the recycling centers get something of value from these materials. In the end, even some numbered plastics get turned away at recycling centers. #6 Polystyrene foam is the most common plastic that gets turned away or dumped in landfills from recycling centers. So, in simple terms styrofoam is a non-recyclable plastic. Therefore, even though the foam may have the #6 plastic recycling symbol on it, it has so little material when it is broken down that it is not accepted as recyclable material. Coffee Cups Although coffee cups seem like a no-brainer for recycling because they get made of paper, there is a lot more going on with their construction and recycling than you might think. On the inside is a coating layer of #5 PP plastic which keeps your drink from leaking out of the paper cup. Virtually all coffee cups have this coating, so it doesn't matter if you go to Starbucks or Peet's. In the end, the only way of recycling the paper from your coffee cup and the plastic coating on the inside that acts as a moisture barrier is to separate the two materials. Unfortunately, this is a complex and highly costly process that is not feasible or worth it for recycling centers. Furthermore, last year alone the United States threw away over 16 billion disposable coffee cups. Therefore, virtually all take-out coffee cups get sent to the landfill. What Plastics Are Made From The health effects of plastics are not entirely known, however, the basis for their production is apparent. Read More: Can You Recycle Nitrile Gloves? (Don't Make These Mistakes)Plastics are a polymer that bonds together and gives plastic its unique and valuable properties. However, many people are not aware that most plastics get made from a crude oil base, which means that plastic production is a significant greenhouse gas contributor. Another common processing material is natural gas for making plastic. Natural gas feedstock and other natural gas byproducts are the most common feedstock for plastic production in the United States. Furthermore, most of these feedstocks for producing plastics come from petroleum refineries. Even though natural gas might seem better for the environment than using crude oil for the production of plastics, each of these has many negatives. As both of these materials main ingredients for plastic are problematic for the environment and contribute heavily to greenhouse gas emissions. Why Plastic Recycling Is Important Recycling your plastics is one of the easiest ways of limiting your carbon and pollution footprint on the Earth. In addition, there are effects outside of your immediate community and own pocketbook that make recycling plastic incredibly important. Recycling plastic is sometimes challenging, but you will make a difference in your community and even globally by doing simple things. You will help with plastic recycling, reuse, and pollution by: Buying intelligent products made from or packaged in recycled materials Limiting your consumption of plastics overall Reusing plastic products and materials you already own Overall, the most essential part of recycling plastics is limiting the production of plastic products. Reduce Greenhouse Emissions Using renewable energy, cutting the production of plastics and the emissions that creating them produces would considerably reduce greenhouse gas emissions. For example, if all plastic got recycled in the world, it would reduce the carbon dioxide emissions by about 4.9 gigatons, which is a twenty-five percent reduction of emissions currently. Lessens Ocean Pollution Many of the plastic that is not recycled ends up in a landfill, however, a large number of plastics never make it into the recycling stream or landfill. As a result, an estimated eight million tons of plastic garbage escapes into the oceans around coastal cities every year. All of this plastic waste ends up as floating hazards for marine wildlife, which have to contend with it as obstacles and get tricked into eating it. For example, it is known that nearly every species of sea bird eats plastic. And with the threat of microplastics not only affecting the health and wellness of marine wildlife but our human bodies as well, the issue is reaching dangerous proportions. With half of all plastics ever produced in the last fifteen years, this is a highly volatile issue choking the wildlife in the world's oceans. Unfortunately, this problem is getting exponentially worse, and there are few solutions in sight other than recycling efforts and limiting the production of current plastics industries. Helps Push Innovation Just because there isn't a use for recycled plastics today doesn't mean there won't be some innovation tomorrow that makes plastic recycling that much better. As a result, designers in every category globally get challenged with finding new and innovative ways of creating products that utilize recycled plastics. Some of the most innovative ideas that make recycling plastics incredibly important are listed below: Plastic decking: Instead of chopping down trees and creating wooden decking, designers and contractors are beginning to develop recycled plastic planks for outdoor decking in homes and businesses. These recycled plastic decking planks are moisture-resistant, never rot, are less expensive than standard lumber, and help reduce plastic pollution. Car Interiors: Car designers need plastics for creating the sleek interiors of cars. Some car manufacturers have even begun using recycled plastic products in the trims, dashboards, armrests, and other interior components of their vehicles for fashionable and eco-friendly material choices. Artistic Pieces: Many artists see plastics as materials for their art. Not only are they using plastics as the medium of their craft, but they are helping to reduce pollution by reducing plastics that get thrown away into the landfill. These art pieces might seem like small use of recycled plastics, but they usually have a larger message about plastic pollution that helps educate and awaken the public to the plight of plastics. To learn more, you can also read our posts on what plastics cannot be recycled, 37 revealing recycling facts that you need to know, and 17 recycling myths debunked. Conclusion Knowing the seven numbers and symbols of plastic recycling is necessary for all consumers. However, recycling is up to individual consumers as it is each person's responsibility to choose to be environmentally conscious and recycle to help save our planet. Hopefully, this article gives you the information you need to make informed decisions about plastic uses and products that use certain recyclable plastics. Remember that the recycling you do might seem small, but it could have a lasting impact on the global community in the long run.