

Yellow Bin

EMBALLAGES RECYCLABLES · YELLOW LID · SMECTOM DU PLANTAUREL

Is it packaging?

Then it goes in — metal, card or plastic, it doesn't matter. Empty it first.

Put it in

Glass, paper and large cardboard are packaging too — but they each have their own place. See below.

METAL

- Drink cans (soda, beer)
- Food cans & tins
- Aluminium foil (tin foil)
- Aluminium trays
- Metal jar lids (jar → blue bin)
- Aerosols — shaving foam, deodorant
- Coffee capsules (aluminium pods)

PAPER & CARD

- Small cardboard boxes
- Pizza boxes
- Cheese boxes (camembert...)
- Cardboard egg boxes / cartons
- Milk & soup cartons (Tetra Pak)
- Paper plates
- Paper cups

PLASTIC & THE REST

- Plastic bottles
- Plastic egg boxes / cartons
- Food trays & meat trays
- Yoghurt pots & cups (plastic)
- Crème fraîche pots (sour cream)
- Plastic bags
- Cling film (plastic wrap)
- Crisp & chip packets
- Blister packs (product packaging)
- Empty pill & tablet strips
- Toothpaste tubes
- Empty make-up containers
- Glue sticks
- Cleaning vinegar bottles
- Bicarbonate / baking soda tubs

Goes elsewhere

The colour shows which stream.

GREEN BIN — TRASH

Plastic plates, cups & cutlery · wooden cutlery · packing polystyrene (Styrofoam) · parcel and pallet strapping · “compostable” bags · tissues & face masks · cotton buds (Q-tips), toothbrushes, pens · cat litter · broken drinking glasses and champagne flutes

DÉCHÈTERIE

The recycling centre (tip / dump). Large cardboard · plastic crates · pans and cookware · toys · anything chemical, oily or bulky

PAPER DROP-OFF

Not a bin at home — the paper container at the collection point. Notebooks, printed paper, magazines

BLUE BIN — GLASS

The blue bin. Glass bottles · jars · glass yoghurt pots · empty glass syrup bottles. Lids and caps come off and go in the yellow bin.

COMPOST

Peelings & food scraps · coffee filters and soft paper coffee pods · crushed eggshells

TAKE BACK TO A SHOP

Batteries · bulbs & tubes · ink cartridges · e-cigarettes

BEFORE YOU DROP IT IN

Empty it. No need to rinse — a scrape is enough.

Loose, never bagged. Don't stack or nest items inside each other.

Item list from **SMECTOM du Plantaurel — Mémo Tri 2026**. Handling rules are the national French sorting instructions.

Colours match **our bin lids** — yellow recyclables, green trash, blue glass — not the mémo's own legend, which colours glass green and paper blue.

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Green Bin

ORDURES MÉNAGÈRES · GREEN LID · SMECTOM DU PLANTAUREL

The last resort.

Only what has no better home.
Everything here is burned or buried — so
check the other sheets first.

Put it in

Access card required for the collective bin.
Nothing on this sheet can be recycled.

TABLEWARE & KITCHEN

- Plastic plates
- Plastic cups
- Plastic cutlery (utensils)
- Wooden cutlery
- Porcelain plates (or déchèterie)
- Broken drinking glasses & champagne flutes
- Kitchen roll (paper towels)

BATHROOM & HYGIENE

- Nappies (diapers)
- Tissues & face masks
- Cotton buds (Q-tips)
- Toothbrushes

PETS & GARDEN

- Cat litter — mineral
- Cat litter — plant-based
- Animal droppings
- Cold ashes
- Shellfish shells

PACKAGING THAT ISN'T RECYCLED

- Packing polystyrene (Styrofoam)
- Parcel & pallet strapping
- “Compostable” bags — they are not
- Pens, pencils, felt tips

Goes elsewhere

The colour shows which stream.

YELLOW BIN

All packaging, whatever it is made of — cans, tins, foil, plastic bottles, pots, trays, films, bags, cartons, small cardboard. This is the single biggest mistake.

BLUE BIN — GLASS

Bottles, jars and flacons. Never broken drinking glasses — those do belong here in general waste.

SHOPS & PHARMACIES

Batteries · bulbs & tubes · leftover medicines · syringes · thermometers · ink cartridges

COMPOST

Peelings & food scraps · coffee filters and soft paper coffee pods · crushed eggshells · citrus peel

DÉCHÈTERIE

Anything chemical, oily, electrical, bulky or building-related · large cardboard · plant pots · branches

TEXTILE BANK

Clothes, shoes and household linen — even torn, holed or worn out, as long as they are clean and dry

**BEFORE YOU
DROP IT IN**

Bag it and tie it. This is the one stream that must be bagged.

Nothing hot, nothing liquid. Let ashes go fully cold first.

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Déchèterie

RECYCLING CENTRE · SMECTOM DU PLANTAUREL

**Chemical,
electrical, bulky
or building.**

If it is none of those and it fits in a bin, it probably belongs in a bin. Staff will point you to the right skip.

Put it in

Take the access card. Hazardous items go to the dedicated point – never in a skip or a bin.

SOLVENTS, PAINT & AEROSOLS

- Acetone
- Methylated spirits
- White spirit
- Spray paint
- Paint & DIY solvent
- Paint stripper, oven cleaner
- Wood stain, filler
- Toxic aerosols

OILS & FUELS

- Frying oil
- Engine oil
- Engine oil cans
- Petrol & fuel cans
- Engine coolant

GARDEN & POOL CHEMICALS

- Weedkiller
- Fertiliser & fungicide
- Insecticide
- Pool chemicals
- Chlorine packaging
- Drain unblocker
- Fire extinguisher under 2 L / 2 kg

BUILDING

- Plaster
- Tiles & earthenware
- Rock & glass wool
- Joinery glazed or not
- Cable & conduit
- DIY tools & paint

GARDEN & OUTDOOR

- Branches (or shred them)
- Garden hose
- Watering can
- Ceramic plant pots
- Plastic plant pots
- Wooden crates

BULKY & FURNITURE

- Large cardboard
- Plastic crates
- Pans & cookware
- Porcelain plates
- Coat hangers
- Packing polystyrene
- Sofas
- X-ray films

ELECTRICAL – OR TAKE BACK TO A SHOP

- Fridges
- Screens & phones
- Toys & games
- Sports & leisure kit
- Light bulbs & tubes
- Batteries
- Car batteries
- Ink cartridges
- E-cigarettes
- Thermometers (or pharmacy)

NEVER HERE Asbestos and dead animals go to specialist firms – never to the déchèterie and never in a bin. Call SMECTOM for the contact. All **packaging** belongs in the yellow bin; only large cardboard comes here.

OPENING HOURS

Foix, Varilhes, Arignac, Villeneuve d'Olmes
Mon-Sat 8.30-12.00 · 13.30-18.00

Les Bordes-sur-Arize, Lézat-sur-Lèze, Le Fossat
Tue-Fri 8.00-12.00 · 14.00-16.15
Sat 8.00-12.00 · 14.00-17.30

*Summer hours differ
from mid-June to
the end of August.*

BEFORE YOU DROP IT IN

Bring your access card. Required for the déchèterie and the collective bin.

Sort before you arrive. Keep chemicals separate and in their original containers.

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Take It Back

POINTS DE COLLECTE · SMECTOM DU PLANTAUREL

**The shop that
sold it takes it
back.**

Shops, pharmacies and charities collect these free of charge. No bin, no déchèterie trip needed.

Put it in

Letter codes are SMECTOM's own:

A association · P pharmacy · M shop · ES specialist firm.

PHARMACY **P**

- Leftover medicines capsules, syrup — opened
- Syringes & needles
- Thermometers

SHOP TAKE-BACK **M**

- Light bulbs & tubes
- Batteries (small)
- Car batteries
- Gas bottles
- Aluminium coffee capsules
- Ink cartridges
- E-cigarettes
- Screens & phones
- Sports & leisure kit
- Shopping bags (worn-out cabas)

SHOP OR CHARITY **M+A**

- Sofas
- Fridges
- Toys & games

CHARITY **A**

- Leather goods bags, belts, wallets

SPECIALIST FIRM **ES**

- Asbestos
- Dead animals

Goes elsewhere

The colour shows which stream.

OR THE DÉCHÈTERIE

Most of the shop take-back items are also accepted at the déchèterie — bulbs, batteries, screens, cartridges, e-cigarettes, sofas, fridges, toys. Whichever trip you are making anyway.

TEXTILE BANK

Clothes, shoes and linen go to the textile bank rather than a charity shop counter — even when worn out.

NEVER THE BIN

Batteries, bulbs, medicines and syringes must never go in general waste — they are hazardous and they injure the people who sort our waste.

YELLOW BIN

Empty pill strips and empty medicine packaging go straight in the yellow bin. Only unused or part-used medicine goes to the pharmacy.

**BEFORE YOU
DROP IT IN**

Take it on the next trip. Keep a box by the door for shop take-back items.

Medicines: no packaging. The pharmacy wants the medicine, not the box.

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Compost

COMPOSTEUR · THE COMPOST BIN · SMECTOM DU PLANTAUREL

Did it grow?

Raw or cooked, if it came off a plant or a plate it can go in. Mix wet scraps with dry brown material.

Put it in

SMECTOM supplies composters and lends a shredder free of charge — one hour of training first.

FROM THE KITCHEN

- ☒ Vegetable peelings
- ☒ Citrus peel
- ☒ Food scraps cooked leftovers
- ☒ Crushed eggshells
- ☒ Coffee filters
- ☒ Soft paper coffee pods
- ☒ Kitchen roll if unsoiled
- ☐ Tea bags paper only, staple out
- ☐ Spoiled fruit & vegetables

DRY BROWN MATERIAL

- ☐ Dead leaves
- ☐ Straw & hay
- ☐ Shredded branches free shredder loan
- ☐ Sawdust untreated wood
- ☐ Cardboard plain, torn small
- ☐ Egg boxes plain card, torn up

Goes elsewhere

The colour shows which stream.

☒ GREEN BIN — TRASH

Cat litter, mineral or plant-based · animal droppings · cold ashes · shellfish shells · and “compostable” bags, which do not break down in a garden heap

☒ YELLOW BIN

Yoghurt pots, trays, film and all other food packaging — empty the food into the compost, the packaging into the yellow bin

☒ DÉCHÈTERIE

Branches and prunings — unless you shred them first, in which case they are perfect brown material

☒ BLUE BIN — GLASS

Jars and bottles, once emptied and scraped out

BEFORE YOU
DROP IT IN

Two parts wet, one part dry. Wet scraps alone go slimy and smell.

Chop it small, turn it over. Smaller pieces break down far faster.

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☒ listed in the mémo ☐ general rule for this stream

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Blue Bin

VERRE · BLUE LID · SMECTOM DU PLANTAUREL

Bottles, jars and flacons.

Nothing else made of glass. Packaging glass melts at a different temperature from drinking glass, ceramics and window panes.

In or out

Glass recycles endlessly with no loss of quality — but one ceramic shard ruins a whole batch.

PACKAGING GLASS ONLY

- Glass bottles wine, beer, water, oil
- Glass jars jam, sauce, preserves
- Glass yoghurt pots
- Empty glass syrup bottles
- Flacons perfume, condiments
- Coloured and clear alike no need to separate

NEVER IN HERE

- × Drinking glasses → general waste
- × Champagne flutes → general waste
- × Porcelain & stoneware → general waste
- × Tiles & earthenware → déchèterie
- × Window & door glass → déchèterie
- × Glass wool → déchèterie
- × Light bulbs & tubes → shop take-back
- × Mirrors & Pyrex → déchèterie

Goes elsewhere

The colour shows which stream.

■ LIDS AND CAPS COME OFF

Metal jar lids and plastic bottle caps go in the yellow bin, not in the blue bin. The jar itself comes here.

■ DÉCHÈTERIE

Flat glass: windows, glazed joinery, mirrors. Also glass wool insulation.

■ GREEN BIN – TRASH

Anything you drink from or eat off — glasses, flutes, porcelain plates — even though it looks like glass

■ KEEP IT INSTEAD

A jar with its lid is a free storage container. Fill it before you recycle it.

**BEFORE YOU
DROP IT IN**

Empty and scraped. No need to rinse — the furnace does the rest.

No bags in the container. Drop the glass in loose and take the bag home.

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■ listed in the mémo □ general rule for this stream × does **not** go here

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Paper Drop-off

PAPIER · NOT A BIN AT HOME · SPECTOM DU PLANTAUREL

Paper you read.

Not paper you wiped with, and not packaging. Clean, dry and loose – paper fibre is only worth recycling while it is still dry.

In or out

Cardboard is not paper: small card goes in the yellow bin, large card goes to the déchèterie.

PAPER YOU READ

- Notebooks remove spiral binding
- ☐ Newspapers
- ☐ Magazines & catalogues
- ☐ Leaflets & junk mail
- ☐ Envelopes windows are fine
- ☐ Printed & written paper
- ☐ Books without covers
- ☐ Paper bags plain, unwaxed

NEVER IN HERE

- ✗ Kitchen roll → general waste
- ✗ Tissues & face masks → general waste
- ✗ Coffee filters → compost
- ✗ Soft paper coffee pods → compost
- ✗ Paper plates & cups → yellow bin
- ✗ Cardboard egg boxes → yellow bin
- ✗ Small cardboard boxes → yellow bin
- ✗ Large cardboard → déchèterie
- ✗ Wallpaper, waxed paper → general waste

Goes elsewhere

The colour shows which stream.

YELLOW BIN

All paper and card that was packaging – boxes, cartons, egg boxes, paper plates and cups. If it held a product, it is packaging.

COMPOST

Coffee filters, soft paper pods, unsoiled kitchen roll – these are good brown material for the heap

GREEN BIN – TRASH

Any paper that is soiled, greasy or wet. Wet paper fibre cannot be recycled and spoils the rest of the load.

USE THE BACK FIRST

Misprints and one-sided paper make free scrap paper. Recycling is the step after that.

BEFORE YOU
DROP IT IN

Dry and loose. Never bagged, never wet.

Staples and windows are fine. The mill removes them. Spiral bindings are not.

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Textile Bank

BORNE TEXTILE · SMECTOM DU PLANTAUREL

Even worn out.

Holed, torn, stained, odd socks — all of it. What cannot be worn again is turned into insulation and cleaning cloth. Clean and dry is the only condition.

In or out

Clean and dry, in a closed bag.
Shoes tied together in pairs.

TAKES IT ALL

- Shoes with holes tie them in pairs
- Socks with holes
- Leather goods bags, belts, wallets
- Clothes any condition
- Household linen sheets, towels, curtains
- Bags & rucksacks
- Hats, scarves, gloves
- Offcuts of fabric

NEVER IN HERE

- ✗ Anything wet or mouldy → general waste
- ✗ Oil or paint soaked rags → déchèterie
- ✗ Mattresses & duvets → déchèterie
- ✗ Offcuts of carpet → déchèterie
- ✗ Coat hangers → déchèterie

Goes elsewhere

The colour shows which stream.

STILL GOOD? PASS IT ON

Clothes in wearable condition are worth more to a charity shop or a give-away than to the bank. The bank is for what no one would choose to wear.

DÉCHÈTERIE

Bulky soft furnishing — mattresses, duvets, pillows, carpet — and anything soaked in chemicals

GREEN BIN — TRASH

Textiles that are wet, mouldy or contaminated. Damp spoils everything else in the bag, so a wet load is a wasted load.

CHARITY

Leather goods are also taken directly by associations, marked A in the SMECTOM memo

**BEFORE YOU
DROP IT IN**

Bagged and closed. A 50 litre bag at most, so it fits the hatch.

Dry, always. One wet item ruins the whole bag.

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Second Life

RÉUTILISATION · SMECTOM DU PLANTAUREL

Not waste yet.

The cheapest waste is the waste you never make. Every item here has an obvious second use before it becomes anyone's problem.

Put it in

SMECTOM collects bulky items from the kerb free, once a year, by appointment.

KEEP AND REFILL

- ☐ Glass jars storage, preserves
- ☐ Glass bottles water, cordial, oil
- ☐ Glass yoghurt pots desserts, seedlings
- ☐ Coat hangers give to a charity shop
- ☐ Wooden crates shelving, planters

INTO THE GARDEN

- ☐ Branches shred for mulch
- ☐ Cold ashes potash for the soil
- ☐ Shellfish shells crush for drainage

PASS IT ON

- ☐ Sofas charity or shop take-back
- ☐ Toys & games charity or shop
- ☐ Clothes still wearable charity, not the bank
- ☐ Working appliances charity or shop

Goes elsewhere

The colour shows which stream.

☐ FREE BULKY COLLECTION

SMECTOM collects bulky items from your kerb free of charge, once a year, by appointment. Call before you hire a van.

☐ WHEN YOU ARE DONE

Jars and bottles you no longer need go to the blue bin, lids off

☐ FREE SHREDDER LOAN

Branches become mulch or compost brown material. The shredder is lent free – one hour of training before the first loan.

☐ TEXTILE BANK

Clothes past wearing – the bank takes them holed and torn, as long as they are clean and dry

BEFORE YOU DROP IT IN

Ask before you bin it. Would anyone take this if it were offered free?

SMECTOM gives advice. On sorting and on the alternatives to throwing away.

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