

# **SORT IT OUT**



## **A Fun & Easy Guide to Greener Living**

In our efforts to create a more sustainable and environmentally friendly community, it's essential that we properly sort our household waste for disposal and recycling. Municipality waste collection services collect paper, plastic, and food waste, as well as mixed waste directly from households. However, other waste types must be sorted by residents and taken to the sorting center for proper processing and recycling. This system ensures efficient waste management, promotes recycling, and reduces landfill usage.

The responsibility for waste management differs between households and businesses. While the municipality handles household waste, companies are responsible to take care of transporting waste to a collection center themselves or negotiate with a service provider for the waste collection. Most companies generate only household waste, which must be sorted according to the same guidelines as household waste from residences.

Although it may seem overwhelming at first, with a little practice and patience, sorting waste will become second nature. By following these guidelines, each of us can play a role in making Hornafjörður greener and cleaner.

### **Here comes the guidance for your reference:**

Matarleifar .....	3
Paper .....	4
Plastic .....	5
Metals .....	7
Glass .....	8
Textile.....	9
Hazardous waste.....	9
Electrical and electronic devices.....	9
Packaging subject to a return fee .....	11
Mixed waste.....	12

### **Sort Center (söfnunarstöð)**

**Address:** Sæbraut 1, Höfn

**Opening time:**

Monday - Thursday: 13:00-17:00

Saturday: 10:00-14:00

## Matarleifar



### What goes into the bin

- Leftovers, whether cooked or uncooked
- Bread and cakes
- Peels and trimmings of fruits and vegetables
- Eggs and eggshells
- Seafood and shells
- Meat, fish and bones
- Coffee
- Sweets
- Kitchen paper and non-colored towels

### What should NOT go into the bin for food scraps

- They belong to **mixed waste**
  - Tobacco, cigarettes or tobacco pads
  - Gum
  - Mold or other soil
  - Cat litter and animal waste
  - Vacuum bags
  - Ear sticks, plasters or cotton
- Residents can get rid of garden waste and clean soil in Fjörhúsvík (more information can be found [www.hornafjordur.is](http://www.hornafjordur.is))

### What will happen to the material

The material travels to Lón, getting a fresh start as compost! This eco-friendly process helps turn your food scraps into valuable compost, which can be used to enrich the soil. Therefore, please ensure that nothing else but food scraps are put into eco-friendly bags.

## Paper

### What goes into the bin

- Newspapers, magazines and books
- Mailbags
- Pizza boxes
- Paper packaging
- Shoe boxes
- Milk and juice cartons
- Cereal boxes
- Egg trays
- Corrugated cardboard



### What should NOT go into the bin for paper

- Any paper that's coated in a material like wax, plastic or foil (such as metallic wrapping paper or some Christmas cards) can't be recycled. It goes to **mixed waste**.

### Practical Guidelines

- Compress the packaging tightly to save space and reduce transportation costs.
- Remove foreign objects such as plastic or food scraps, as they can diminish the recycling value of the material.
- You can retain plastic caps for milk cartons, and there's no need to remove plastic windows or adhesive strips from envelopes.
- Staples, paper clips, and smaller springs can also be left intact. Just remember, no plastic bags!
- New Materials: The market is constantly evolving with innovative businesses introducing new environmentally friendly materials. One such example is baking paper made from cellulose, allowing it to decompose in compost, thus suitable for composting. However, determining the material of a product isn't always straightforward. In such instances, it's wise to be cautious: if unsure about the composition, it's safest to dispose of it in mixed waste. This helps prevent contamination of recyclable paper and plastic streams. However, if the item is clearly labeled as compostable, then we can follow the provided instructions.

### What will happen to the material

The material undergoes cleaning, compaction, and packaging at our sorting center to minimize its volume. It is directly transported to STENA in Sweden for further sorting. This sorting process includes corrugated cardboard, smooth paper/newspapers, and cartons/moisture-resistant cardboard packaging, which are then directed towards specific recycling processes.

## Plastic



### What goes into the bin

- Plastic packaging
- Snack bags
- Plastic film
- Plastic bags
- Bubble wrap
- Plastic containers like shampoo bottles, and bottles for cleaning products
- Plastic trays

### Exception - Plastic with a return fee

- plastic bottles for fruit juice
- plastic bottles for soft drinks
- plastic bottles for energy drinks
- plastic bottles for water
- plastic bottles for alcohol



In our municipality, Sindra's basketball department takes care of the reception of all items with a return fee.

### Practical Guidelines

- If you are unsure whether packaging is made of plastic or aluminium, e.g. snack bags, the rule of thumb is that if you crumple the wrapper and it pops back out, it's plastic. If they stay crumpled, they are made of aluminum. However, regardless of whether these packages are made of plastic or aluminum, they should be disposed of in the plastic waste bin.
- Ensure that plastic packaging is completely empty, and bottles are free of any liquid residue.
- It's advisable to rinse the packaging before sorting to prevent any lingering odors during storage.
- Consider stacking or finding ways to compact plastic items to maximize storage space and minimize transportation requirements.

### Important Note

- Please be aware that items such as toys powered by electricity or batteries fall under the category of electronic devices. Please bring them to our sorting center, where they'll get the special recycling treatment.
- Please drop off clean styrofoam blocks from packaging at our sorting center. They will be squeezed (to remove air) so they'll be easier to manage and recycle.



### What will happen to the material

The material undergoes cleaning, compaction, and packaging at our sorting center to minimize its size, after which it is transported to SORPA in Reykjavík and then to Sweden. In Sweden, the plastic is

categorized by type and can be used to manufacture new plastic products. Any plastic that is unsuitable for recycling is utilized for energy production.

## Metals

Metal is a valuable material that can be recycled again and again with associated environmental benefits.



### Guidelines for the classification of metal

- Metal packaging
- Spirit candle cups
- Metal lids of jars

### Exception - Metal with return fee

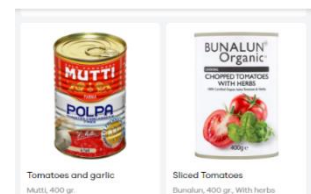
- plastic bottles for fruit juice
- plastic bottles for soft drinks
- plastic bottles for energy drinks
- plastic bottles for water
- plastic bottles for alcohol



In our municipality, Sindra's basketball department takes care of the reception of all items with a return fee.

### Important Note

- Please be aware that electronic devices, gas cylinders, or carbonic acid cylinders should not be placed in this category. Electronic devices have their own designated category of waste, while gas cylinders and carbonic acid canisters are considered hazardous waste.
- Food tin cans or aluminum cans that are not included in the Metal with Return Fee category (Málmur með skilagjaldi) should be taken to the sorting center. Please deposit them into the designated container labeled "Málmumbúðir." These items can be recycled separately from other metal items.



### Practical instructions

- It is important that all leftover food has been cleaned from the kitchen.
- All material should go loose in the bin, not in sealed plastic bags.

## Glass



### Guidelines for classification of glass

- Window glass
- Glass packaging
- Flower pots
- Perfume bottles

### Exception – Glass with return fee

- glass bottles for alcohol
- glass bottles for beer
- glass bottles for fruit juice
- glass bottles for soft drinks
- glass bottles for energy drinks



In our municipality, Sindra's basketball department takes care of the reception of all items with a return fee.

### Important Note

- Please be aware that electronic devices, gas cylinders, or carbonic acid cylinders should not be placed in this category. Electronic devices have their own designated category of waste, while gas cylinders and carbonic acid canisters are considered hazardous waste.
- Return glass bottles and jars (remove the metal lid) that are not included in the Glass with return fee category (Gler með skilagjaldi) to our sorting center. Place them into the designated container. These items can be recycled separately from other glass products.



### Practical instructions

- It is important that the glass is free of food residues and foreign objects, e.g. metal or plastic valves.
- Containers must be empty and clean.



## Textile



### Examples of textile waste

- clothing
- linen
- sheets
- tablecloths
- rag
- bathrobes
- towels

## Hazardous waste



### Examples of hazardous waste

- fluorescent bulbs
- light bulbs
- lighting equipment, starters (conductor)
- oil paint
- asbestos from older buildings
- batteries

### Important Note

- Lyfjaleifar shall be taken to Lyfja directly. Sorting center will not take drugs or drug residues.

## Electrical and electronic devices



### Examples of e-waste

- Large electronics
- Televisions and monitors
- Refrigerators and freezers
- Small electronics

### Practical instructions

- Remember to remove batteries from devices when possible and sort them.
- It is important that screens do not break, as harmful substances can then be released into the environment.
- Refrigerators and freezers should be left separately in sorting center from other large electronics.



- Usable devices (or any other usable items) can be taken to the section for second-hand items for reuse. Alternatively, they can be taken to Hirðingjarnir to be given a second life with a new owner.

## Packaging subject to a return fee



There is great value in recycling beverage packaging. Aluminum can be recycled again and again without its material properties deteriorating, and the annual export value is around ISK 200 million according to numbers from Endurravhlássinn hf.

**Click here for more information**

<https://endurvinnslan.is/>

### Examples of returnable packaging

- glass bottles for alcohol
- glass bottles for beer
- glass bottles for fruit juice
- glass bottles for soft drinks
- glass bottles for energy drinks
- plastic bottles for fruit juice
- plastic bottles for soft drinks
- plastic bottles for energy drinks
- plastic bottles for water
- plastic bottles for alcohol
- aluminum cans for soft drinks
- aluminum cans for energy drinks
- aluminum cans for beer

The general rule is that beverage packaging, apart from packaging that contains alcohol, must have contained water with or without carbonic acid, or water-mixed substances for drinking, in order to be liable to return fee. It is a ready-made beverage that can be drunk directly from the relevant packaging.

### PACKAGING WITHOUT RETURN FEE

There is no return fee on packaging for fruit concentrate, milk drinks and cocoa drinks that contain fresh milk, cooking oil, tomato sauce or detergent. This packaging should be returned to the sort center separately.

## Mixed waste



### What goes into the bin

- Cotton pad and cotton buds
- Sanitary napkin
- Wet wipes
- Diapers
- Vacuum bags
- Baking paper
- Cat litter
- Coffee capsules
- Disposable masks
- Disposable gloves, including rubber and latex gloves

### What will happen to the material

Mixed waste will be landfilled in the landfill site at Lón.

Efficient waste management is essential to our commitment to minimizing the volume of mixed waste sent to the landfill site. Landfills are our last resort for waste disposal, but they contribute to environmental challenges, including the release of greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), accelerating glacier retreat. To mitigate these issues, we urge everyone to actively engage in waste reduction, recycling, and sorting efforts. By doing so, we can significantly reduce landfill usage, limit the adverse effects on the environment, and contribute to a more sustainable and climate-resilient Hornafjörður.