

| | FULL COMPATIBILITY | LIMITED COMPATIBILITY | NON-COMPATIBILITY |
|---|---|---|---|
| MATERIAL COMPOSITION (AMOUNT OF PET & PO ATTACHMENTS IN THE PACKAGING) | A >= 95%, B >= 80% and all packaging features are FULLY compatible with recycling | C >= 70% and all packaging features are FULLY compatible with recycling | Non-recyclable < 70% and all packaging features are FULLY compatible with recycling |
| DESCRIPTION (TEST PROTOCOL) | Materials that passed the testing protocols with no negative impact ⁴ OR materials that have not been tested (yet), but are known to be acceptable in white opaque PET recycling | Materials that passed the testing protocols if certain conditions are met ⁴ OR materials that have not been tested (yet), but pose a low risk of interfering with white opaque PET recycling | Materials that failed the testing protocols OR materials that have not been tested (yet), but pose a high risk of interfering with white opaque PET recycling |
| DESCRIPTION (METHODOLOGY) | In case of at least one limited compatibility one penalty is applied, lowering the recyclability class from A to B or from B to C | In case of at least one limited compatibility one penalty is applied, lowering the recyclability class from C to non-recyclable | Non-recyclable |
| MAIN BODY | MATERIAL ¹ | PET | PLA; PVC; PS; PETG; PC; PBT |
| | COLOURS ² | Monolayer PET bottles; External side of the bottle with L* > 85 | External side of the bottle with L* < 80; Other opaque colours; Fluorescence; Metallic |
| | SIZE | | < 4 cm (compacted); > 5 liter content |
| | PRODUCT RESIDUES (EASY TO EMPTY INDEX) | A if the index is < 5 %; B if the index is < 10 % | Index is >= 15 % |
| | BARRIER | SiOx coating; | PA-MXD6 multilayer with >5wt% PA-MXD6 or with tie layers; Monolayer PA-MXD6 blend; EVOH |
| | ADDITIVES | TiO ₂ content < 8 wt%; PET masterbatch carrier | TiO ₂ content > 9 wt%; Other fillers; Non-PET masterbatch carrier; Bio-/oxo-/photodegradable additives; Nanocomposites |
| ATTACHMENTS | CLOSURE SYSTEM | PE (with density <1 g/cm³); PP (with density <1 g/cm³) | Materials and blends with density >1 g/cm³ (e.g. highly filled PE, metals,...); Non detaching or welded closures |
| | LINERS, SEALS AND VALVES | PE; PE + EVA; PP; TPO (all with a density < 1 g/cm³); TPS (with density <0.95g/cm³) | Materials with density >1 g/cm³ (e.g. PVC, silicone, metals); |
| | OTHER COMPONENTS | Base cup, handles or other components which are separated by grinding and float/sink - all with density <1 g/cm³ | Materials with density >1 g/cm³ (e.g. metal, RFID tags); Non detaching or welded components |
| DECORATION ³ | FACESTOCK LABEL MATERIAL ³ | PE; PP; OPP (all with density <1 g/cm³) | EPS; foamed PET; Lightly metallized labels (all with density <0.95 g/cm³); Paper labels without fibrelosses |
| | ADHESIVES FOR LABELS | Alkali/water releasable adhesive at 70-90°C | Labels which hinder the recognition of the underlying PET-polymer (e.g. too large, metallised, heavily inked); Labels with density >1 g/cm³ (e.g.PVC; PS; PET; PETG; PLA); Metallized labels; Non-detaching or welded labels; Paper labels with fibreloss; Foamed PETG labels (even with density <1 g/cm³); PET labels with washable inks |
| | SLEEVES ³ | PE; PP; OPP sleeves not hampering NIR and colour sorting (all with density <1 g/cm³) | Alkali/water soluble adhesive; Alkali/water non-releasable adhesive at 70-90°C |
| | TAMPER EVIDENCE WRAP | PE; PP; OPP (all with density <1 g/cm³) | Sleeves which hinder the recognition of the underlying PET-polymer (e.g. too large, metallised, heavily inked); Sleeves with density >1 g/cm³ (e.g.PVC; PS; PET; PETG); Foamed PETG sleeves (even with density <1 g/cm³); PET sleeves with washable inks |
| | INKS | Retention inks compliant with EuPIA Exclusion Policy; Inks applied on removable labels/sleeves not hampering the sorting into a white opaque PET stream | Materials with density >1 g/cm³ (e.g metal; PVC; PS; PETG); Metallised materials; Foamed PETG (even with density <1 g/cm³); PET with washable inks |
| | OTHER DECORATIVE TECHNOLOGIES | Production or expiry date (direct printing) | Bleeding inks; Inks non-compliant with EuPIA Exclusion Policy; Metallic inks; Washable inks; Any other direct printing |
| | | Laser marking for production or expiry date | Any other laser marking |

RECYCLED CONTENT: No change in the recyclability assessment. A separate '[Recycled Plastics Traceability Certification](#)' based on a Chain of Custody approach is available with RecyClass

¹ Polymer resin can be either fossil- or bio-based, virgin or recycled.

² Recyclability tests will be performed in 2025 to clarify the impact of black inner layers of multilayers on the colour of the recyclate

³Decorative technologies must not hinder the recognition of the underlying PET-polymer. Features as size, print, mass colouration and/or barrier might require to perform a Sorting Evaluation Protocol. Known misleading features are listed on the RecyClass Methodology and the following size indications can be considered to ensure the recognition of PET:

- Size of non-PET surfaces on containers > 500 ml: < 70% coverage
- Size of non-PET surfaces on containers ? 500 ml: < 50% coverage

⁴ Approved technologies can be found [here](#)

Last update: July 2025