About Local Regulations

Updated last on 2023-08-2

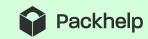
The Packaging and Packaging Waste Act is an act regulating packaging management in Poland. This law was adopted by parliament in 2013 and since then has been enforced throughout the country.

This act supplements the Waste Act with a specific regulation on packaging and packaging waste, and implements Directive 94/62/EC (the Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive).

The Polish law regulates the following waste-related matters (click to read more):

- 1 Packaging Labelling Requirements
- 2 Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)
- ³ Single-Use Plastic





Packaging Labelling Requirements:

Plastic in product pictograms

Cups containing plastic should be marked with "Plastic in Product". You can download the graphic <u>here</u>.



Additional labels

An entrepreneur introducing any products in packaging, manufacturing packaging, importing packaging and making intra-community acquisition of packaging should place markings on the packaging indicating:

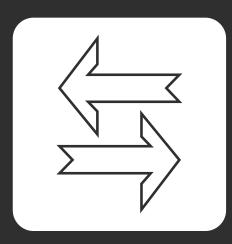
The symbol should be placed within the packaging design or on a label stuck to it. If the size of the packaging is insufficient, the label can be placed on an information leaflet attached to the packaging in a manner that does not prevent the recycling of packaging waste. The marking should be clear, visible, legible and durable – even after opening the package.

Additional labels – examples

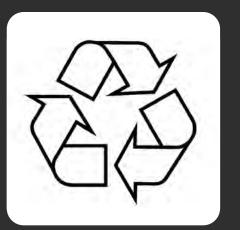
• The type of materials from which the packaging was made



• The reusability of the packaging (in the case of reusable packaging)



• The recyclability of the packaging (in the case of recyclable packaging)





Extended Producer Responsibility:

Poland has introduced the EPR scheme only partially. Producers are obliged to register in a special database (Products, Packaging and Waste Management Database, or BDO). Entities that generate waste and keep records of waste; introduce packaged products, vehicles, oils, lubricants, tyres, batteries or accumulators, as well as electrical and electronic equipment to the domestic market; and producers, importers, and intra-community buyers of packaging are all required to register.

Single-Use Plastic

Implemented on May 24th 2023.

Forbidden are:

- Cotton buds (excluding cotton buds intended for medical purposes as defined in the definition of a medical device)
- Cutlery (forks, knives, spoons, chopsticks)
- Plates
- Straws (excluding straws intended for medical purposes according to the definition of a medical device)
- Drink stirrers
- Sticks attached to balloons (used support/display the balloon)
- Food containers made of expanded polystyrene
- Food containers made of expanded polystyrene, including caps and lids
- Beverage cups made of expanded polystyrene including caps and lids,