



PLASTICS AND PACKAGING

Changing the way we use plastics and packaging to reduce our impact on the environment is a top priority for us. Which is why we're aiming to use less packaging and more responsible materials that contain recycled content, and are recyclable or even reusable.

PLASTICS AND PACKAGING CONTINUED

2022 PERFORMANCE

	2022	2021	2020 ⁴
Our ambitions			
50% reduction in amount of virgin plastic packaging by 2030 vs 2020	7.3%	1.2%	–
100% of plastic packaging to be recyclable or reusable by 2025	76.4%	75.3%	74.3%
25% recycled content in our plastic packaging by 2025	5%	4%	4%
Other packaging metrics			
PLASTICS			
Total weight of all plastic packaging (metric tonnes)	187,911	198,927	201,586
PAPER & BOARD			
Total weight of all paper and board packaging (metric tonnes) ¹	231,102	232,512	227,567
Percentage of paper and board from certified or recycled sources, excluding third-party manufacturing sites	99.5% ²	99%	98%
METAL			
Total weight of all metal (tinplate and aluminium) packaging (metric tonnes) ³	60,321	71,777	78,842
Percentage recycled content in metal packaging	30%	38%	32%
GLASS			
Total weight of all glass packaging (metric tonnes)	32,776	36,082	28,771
Percentage recycled content in glass packaging	22%	26%	33%

1. Total plastic packaging weight excludes devices, gadgets, aerosol valves, adhesives and fill formula (such as wipe substrate), aligned with the Ellen MacArthur Foundation (EMF) definition

2. Excludes volumes sourced from Russia (c.1%) where FSC certifications are currently suspended

3. Excludes IFCN China volumes which is the main contributor to the change between 2021 to 2022

4. Reckitt progress is measured via the EMF methodology plus technical recyclability. Our 2020 numbers have been restated to this effect

PLASTICS AND PACKAGING CONTINUED

Packaging protects our products and keeps them safe for consumers. But it's a top priority for us to help reduce plastics and packaging waste, and we've set ourselves clear targets to do so.

We are constantly improving our packaging to support our sustainability ambitions and reduce our impact on the environment. We reduce our footprint by using fewer and more easily recycled materials, reducing the weight of packaging and using more post-consumer recycled (PCR) plastic. We improve recyclability through better packaging design, by using just one type of material, especially in laminates, and removing colours which can make recycling harder.

Sustainability is central to how we operate. We train our pack designers to consider sustainability from the start, and not something that's added once we've made the big decisions. By considering the raw materials used, the lifecycle of the product, and the potential end-of-life scenarios for the packaging, we aim to design for circularity and reduce waste. We are able to simulate how the packaging will perform, so our designs use the optimum amount of material while remaining effective. This underlines how, for us, sustainability and business benefits are two sides of the same coin. A pack made with fewer materials helps us achieve our targets to reduce our environmental impact, including cutting our supply chain Scope 3 emissions. But it can help keep costs down too, as well as giving consumers another reason to choose our products.

Our Sustainable Innovation Calculator measures the impact of plastic and packaging inputs for every new product. It is fundamental to every step in our product development process and acts as a decision-making tool for our teams.

➤ For more information on how we design sustainability into our products, see our [Sustainable Product Innovation Insight](#)



REUSE PACKAGING WITH DETTOL'S POWDER TO LIQUID HAND WASH IN INDIA

Last year, we launched a new Dettol powder to liquid hand wash that enables consumers to reuse their existing bottle and soap pump.

By simply adding a sachet of powder to water, the consumer can create a hand wash with the same renowned germ protection. The original bottle and pump can be reused up to 20 times and, with a powder refill sachet containing 33% less plastic than a liquid refill pouch, and 90% less than that in another bottle and pump, it's an innovation which helps move us towards our 50% reduction in virgin plastic use 2030 target. Each powder refill weighs only 8 grams, compared with a bottle of liquid hand wash at over 200 grams. This means that the product also reduces costs and carbon emissions from transportation.



In 2022, we launched our internal Sustainable Packaging Handbook, to help provide clarity and resources for all those involved in designing and developing products and packaging. This will help steer our actions and drive progress towards our targets.

Definitions of recyclability are continually evolving. To ensure global consistency, we follow relevant Design for Recycling guidelines. Our targets are in line with our peers in the Fast Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) sector, and so is our progress on recyclability. We've made great strides in removing problematic and non-recyclable formats from our brands, and we'll continue to do so to meet our target of 100% plastic packaging to be recyclable or reusable by 2025.

We track the impact of changes to our packaging through internal governance processes and by reporting them through the Ellen MacArthur Foundation's Global Commitment.

Progress against our ambitions

Reducing and replacing plastics is a complex task, but it's a challenge we embrace. Our progress is driven by investment in both our own R&D and in building strong partnerships with leading external materials and waste experts. Together we are identifying, testing and learning new ways to reduce and recycle plastics from our packaging.

Our collective efforts are starting to pay off. But we recognise we need to move more quickly to increase our impact, from developing innovations to embedding them in our products at scale.

Reducing plastics and packaging

Our aim is to reduce virgin plastic in packaging by 50% by 2030 against a 2020 baseline. In 2022, we achieved a 7.3% reduction compared with 2021. Among other things, we:

- Continued to work to minimise packaging by making components smaller, thinner and lighter, and reducing the headspace in our packs
- Launched new refillable and reusable formats, such as powder to liquid solutions for Dettol hand wash in India and capsule refill systems for Veja in Brazil

PLASTICS AND PACKAGING CONTINUED



FINISH DETERGENT PACKAGING GOES PAPER-BASED

We launched a fully recyclable paper-based stand-up pouch for Finish dishwasher tablets in France. Once fully rolled out to other markets, this will save over 2,000 tonnes of plastic per year — the equivalent of 50 million one-litre bottles. This is the latest milestone on our journey towards halving the amount of virgin plastic in our packaging by 2030.

The new Finish pouch features 75% paper, which is responsibly sourced. The remaining plastic is needed to strengthen the structure of the paper, as well as providing durability, water resistance, and a re-closable seal, to ensure the quality and safety of the product.

As well as reducing plastic, the new packaging is expected to generate 15% fewer carbon emissions compared with existing packaging across the packaging lifecycle, as a result of less carbon-intensive manufacturing and increased recyclability.



- Launched a paper-based stand-up pouch for Finish dishwasher tablets in France, which uses 75% less plastic than the current packaging
- Continued to research how to better roll out and scale up innovations, so they can be used in more products, in more categories and in more countries

Increasing recycled content

Our ambition is for our plastic packaging to contain 25% recycled content by 2025. In 2022, we included 5% PCR content. During the year, our actions included:

- Redoubling efforts on our Finish, Harpic and Vanish brands, adding recycled plastics to more packs in more countries. Finish launched 35% PCR content in high-density polyethylene (HDPE) rinse aid and detergent bottles in Europe, while Vanish added 45% into HDPE tubs in some markets. In India, Harpic toilet bowl cleaner bottles now contain 7.5% PCR content
- Using up to 35% PCR content in bottles for the newly launched Dettol Tru Clean and incorporating 75% recycled plastic into the 22 million Cillit Bang spray bottles that we produce each year, saving 880 metric tonnes of virgin plastic
- Adding PCR content to Dettol laundry sanitiser and washing machine cleaner bottles in China, and preparing to do so in other categories ready for launches in 2023

Despite taking these actions, progress around PCR inclusion in our products remains slower than we want, exacerbated by COVID-19 impact causing delays to our product development processes together with supply challenges, making it difficult to source sufficient quantities of good quality PCR material.

Our technical progress has been encouraging given the challenges involved in increasing PCR content. Our priority now is to use this to increase the scale and impact of implementation, across regions, over the next two years.

Making products more recyclable

Our ambition is to make all of our plastic packaging recyclable or reusable by 2025. We reached 76.4% in 2022. Last year, we:

- Made progress in swapping multi-layer laminates for mono-materials, which are more easily recycled, particularly for stand-up pouches in our portfolio
- Added perforations and messaging to bottle sleeves for more products. Separating sleeves from bottles makes it easier for recycling systems to detect and sort plastics in the recycling process
- Removed colours containing carbon black additives from our plastic packaging to ensure that sorting equipment in recycling plants is better able to detect and recycle packs
- Worked with waste management experts and industry bodies to help improve recycling infrastructure worldwide, which will also support the global supply of PCR material

Collaborating with our partners

We cannot achieve our targets by working alone. The challenges around packaging and plastics are too complex and too dependent on external factors for any single company to address on its own.

That is why we are strengthening our global, cross-sector commitments, such as our participation in the Consumer Goods Forum and its Plastic Waste Coalition of Action projects. We continue to collaborate with the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, and its vision of a circular economy in which plastic never becomes waste or pollution and the value of products and materials is retained in the economy. Our collaboration, both on a global level and through the Foundation's national Plastic Pact initiatives, includes working closely with our peers through workshops, action groups and educational offerings, to address key parts of this vision, such as the elimination of problematic or unnecessary plastic packaging, and ensuring all plastic packaging is reusable, recyclable or compostable. We have also joined the Business Coalition for a Global Plastics Treaty, convened by the Ellen MacArthur Foundation and WWF. Working with more than 80 organisations, we're aiming to create a circular economy for plastics, ensuring products and materials stay in the economy and out of the environment.

PLASTICS AND PACKAGING CONTINUED

Non-plastic packaging

We are making good progress towards our goal of sourcing all of our paper and board from certified or recycled sources (excluding third-party manufacturing sites). We reached 99.5% in 2022 and we're working to close the final gap before 2025.

We're also finding ways to address the environmental impact associated with our use of other materials, like metal and glass. The same principles apply here as with plastics, and we aim to reduce the amount of material we use, incorporate recycled content where possible, and design our packs to maximise recyclability. Our Sustainable Innovation Calculator helps us to measure the impact of our decisions and ensure that we make the best overall choices in our development process. We are also working with our suppliers to make progress on our non-plastic packaging.

➤ For more on the Sustainable Innovation Calculator, see our [Sustainable Product Innovation Insight](#)

Facing recycling challenges

Consumers have an important role to play in increasing global recycling rates. Schemes such as supermarket collection points for flexible plastics have increased opportunities for recycling but we need to help consumers understand how to correctly dispose of recyclable plastics. In the UK, for instance, only about a quarter of household packaging goes to recycling and, for flexible plastics, this is even lower, at just 6%. We're adding more labelling to our products to help our consumers understand what to do with plastic packaging after use. Ultimately, better quality plastic, which is correctly recycled, combined with better processing systems, will improve the supply and reduce the cost of PCR material. This can then be used to make more packaging.

1. Source: [wrap.org.uk/taking-action/plastic-packaging/actions/plastic-bags-and-wrapping](https://www.wrap.org.uk/taking-action/plastic-packaging/actions/plastic-bags-and-wrapping)



PARTNERING WITH PLASTIC BANK TO HELP COLLECT 100 TONNES OF PLASTIC WASTE

In 2022, Reckitt Germany joined forces with Plastic Bank, which turns plastic waste into useful material, to support its mission to stop plastic reaching the ocean.

For every purchase in Germany of a product from our Hygiene business via Amazon, Avides or the on-demand delivery services Gorillas, Getir, Fliinc and Picnic, our consumers contribute to preventing plastic bottles from ending up in the ocean. Each purchase of products from brands such as Finish, Sagrotan, Air Wick, Calgon, Vanish, Cillit Bang and Botanica leads to one plastic bottle stopped on its way into the ocean.

The campaign aims to help avoid 100 tonnes of plastic, which is equal to five million plastic bottles, from entering the oceans.



Translation: together against plastic in the ocean

“THROUGH R&D, SCIENCE AND PARTNERSHIPS, WE’RE EXPLORING THE NEXT GENERATION OF PLASTICS AND MATERIALS.”

Looking ahead

As regulations develop across the world, we're continuously assessing our portfolio to ensure we meet, or even exceed, their requirements.

We continue to focus on three priorities: using less plastic and packaging materials; using better materials to enable more recyclability; and incorporating more recycled content. We have targets for 2025 and 2030, but we're also looking beyond those dates. Our overarching ambition is to deliver our products in new ways that minimise or eliminate packaging, while still working as well as ever.

By 2025, we'll be using more materials like PCR, and we'll be on our way to reducing our use of virgin plastic by 50% by 2030. We're also looking further into the future. Through R&D, science and partnerships, we're exploring the next generation of plastics and materials, investigating advanced recycling methods to enable more material to be recycled, with better quality outputs, and assessing technologies and processes which can make an impact in the manufacture of our packaging.



WASTE

Eliminating waste and making our processes more efficient improves our productivity and helps make us more sustainable. We try to generate as little waste as possible, reuse as much as we can, and dispose of the rest responsibly. We're also striving to use more recycled, recyclable and reusable materials in our products and packaging.

WASTE CONTINUED

2022 PERFORMANCE

	2022 progress	2021 ¹	2020 ¹	2015 baseline
Our ambitions				
25% reduction in waste from manufacturing (per tonne of production) by 2025 vs 2015	-21% ⁺	-21%	-15%	—
100% factories send zero waste to landfill	94% ⁺	96%	92%	—
Other waste metrics				
Waste (kg) per tonne of production	25.6 ⁺	25.9	27.7	32.6 ¹
Hazardous waste (kg) per tonne of production	4.3 ⁺	4.2	3.8	—
Total waste generated (metric tonnes)	78,150 ⁺	82,513	93,846	—
Total waste recycled/reused (metric tonnes)	51,787	55,388	65,605	—
Percentage of waste recycled	66%	67%	70%	—
Total waste to landfill (metric tonnes)	5,577	5,793	5,365	—

⁺ Assured by ERM CVS as part of its limited assurance scope; for details, see our [Sustainability Governance, Reporting and Assurance Insight](#)

¹ Data restated due to removal of divested sites and data reporting improvements. See our Reporting Criteria for more detail at [reckitt.com/our-company/policies-reports](https://www.reckitt.com/our-company/policies-reports)

WASTE CONTINUED

Waste can occur across our whole value chain, from when we source and process ingredients to when consumers use our products and dispose of them and their packaging. Shrinking our waste footprint can help us reduce our environmental impact, cut costs and help combat climate change, which is why we continue to work towards our waste reduction targets.

Our approach

We have a responsibility to minimise the waste we produce. Doing so reduces the resources we use, the waste needing to be disposed of and helps cut costs. Waste can occur across our whole value chain, from when we source and process ingredients to when consumers dispose of our products and their packaging after use (see our [Plastics and Packaging Insight](#) for more information). Waste also occurs during our manufacturing processes and we are focused on minimising waste generation alongside choosing alternative disposal options to landfill, such as recycling.

Optimising our manufacturing processes to make them more efficient helps us use less material and, therefore, helps reduce the amount of waste generated. This brings additional cost benefits to our business but also supports a more responsible approach to resource use. Beyond avoiding waste altogether, we're focused on minimising the impacts associated with its treatment – reprocessing or recycling as much as possible.

In addition, generating energy from waste, through incineration for instance, has benefits as it avoids sourcing energy from higher-carbon, non-renewable sources like gas, and it helps to reduce our carbon footprint. Less waste to landfill also means less carbon dioxide and methane being created as waste degrades – harmful GHGs that add to climate change.

In 2022, we continued to develop and track the impact of initiatives to cut waste in our manufacturing sites, with a 21% reduction relative to production since 2015. We are also very close to our target of zero waste to landfill, where all but three of our sites were zero waste to landfill at the end of 2022.

Our North American Zeeland and Evansville Nutrition sites are behind schedule on zero waste to landfill. However, they are expected to reach this goal in early 2023, after reaching approximately 95% avoidance of waste to landfill by the end of 2022. We are also working on a plan for our Wanamingo site, which was acquired in 2021, to reach zero waste to landfill. Prior to our ownership, the site did not have an environmental management system in place. This is currently being developed and implemented.

Managing waste from our operations

Our manufacturing sites are subject to the global ISO 14001 environmental management certification and follow our Global Waste Management Standard, which covers every aspect of waste management from legal compliance and risk management to operational controls, strengthening our activity and tracking performance. It requires sites to report every month on the type, quantity and disposal route of the waste they produce. Our Global Environmental team analyses progress and investigates significant variations with sites, providing support and guidance to improve performance. All sites are regularly audited, both internally and externally. Each site undertakes an annual self-assessment of compliance with the waste management standard, and detailed site audits look at legal compliance, risk management and environmental performance of each site in reducing waste. This includes checking proper disposal of all waste.

“WE CONTINUALLY REVIEW THE WAY WE WORK, IDENTIFYING OPPORTUNITIES TO REUSE MATERIALS TO AVOID WASTE, WHILE MAINTAINING THE SAFETY AND QUALITY OF OUR PRODUCTS.”



CO-PROCESSING BENEFITS

At our Sitarganj site in India, which produces Hygiene and Health products, our effluent treatment plant produces sludge as a by-product which can often be used in the cement industry. However, our previous methods have meant that the sludge's moisture content was too high to be used in cement plants for co-processing (energy recovery). This meant that sludge was sent for incineration (without energy recovery). In March 2022, we implemented a new electrical drying process at the site to produce dry sludge. This has both economic benefits, through a reduction in the overall volume of sludge disposed, cost benefits from co-processing compared with incineration and environmental benefits with a 5.7% reduction in overall site waste volumes in 2022.



WASTE CONTINUED

Going beyond regulations

Where possible, we always strive to go above and beyond local and national waste management regulations. We apply Reckitt global standards and best practices to our sites, and develop action plans to improve performance and standards if required. We set clear targets and objectives for people involved in waste management, and our approach, embodied in our Global Waste Management Standard, is to progress through a 'waste hierarchy', where preventing waste is the best outcome. Where waste can't be avoided, we aim to minimise it, or reuse or recycle materials. Recovering energy from waste is next in the hierarchy, followed by disposal as the last resort. Each site's environmental specialists help identify the best ways to follow this waste hierarchy.

We continually review the way we work, identifying opportunities to reuse materials to avoid waste altogether where we can, while maintaining the safety and quality of our products. For example, our site in Bangpakong, Thailand, which manufactures Durex condoms, used to send all its unwanted latex to waste management companies for incineration. Now over a third (more than 142 tonnes) of our waste latex is being upcycled to make flip-flops. The first batch was donated to a local school.

Working with suppliers

We're also working to cut waste in our supply chain. We do this by monitoring site waste, promoting waste reduction and supporting suppliers to use more recyclable and reusable materials and dispose of waste responsibly. This includes working with them to improve waste data reporting, which is key to tracking and improving waste efficiency. In 2022, we continued our partnership with Manufacture 2030, which provided our key suppliers with support around reducing their waste footprint. Throughout the year, Manufacture 2030 facilitated a number of webinars around waste for our suppliers, in addition to supporting them build their action plans and submit data. To date, our suppliers have completed 991 actions which have saved 571.4 tonnes of waste.

Overcoming challenges

We face challenges associated with the high cost of alternatives to landfill in some regions. Repurposing waste or turning it into new material or energy can be expensive because of the extra costs for recycling, transporting and storing the material. We continue to look for ways to manage and dispose of waste that are environmentally friendly and cost-effective, and also follow the principles of the waste hierarchy.

Making reuse and recycling easier for consumers

We aim to make products more sustainable, which includes reducing waste impacts and helping consumers to reduce their waste footprint. Our design and material choices help to make our packaging reusable or recyclable, and increase its recycled content. For example, we're swapping multi-layer laminates for mono-materials which are easier to recycle, and we're removing black dyes from our bottles that can impede the recycling process. We are also reducing the amount of material used within packaging through processes such as lightweighting or offering refill packs.

➤ For more details on these initiatives, see our [Plastics and Packaging Insight](#)



Looking ahead

We will continue to look for better ways to avoid, reduce, reuse or recycle our waste. Eliminating waste and making our processes more efficient, by doing more with less, improves our productivity and makes us more sustainable. Our sustainability and productivity teams will continue to work together to find new ways of increasing productivity by using fewer resources and reducing environmental impact.

We will also be delivering on our war on waste campaign through our Reckitt Production System (RPS), where waste reduction has been a key focus and success for many of our sites. With the rollout of RPS across our business units, sites are able to take a systematic approach to assessing and reducing material waste from our production processes, using proven guidance, recommended techniques and support tools. A combination of waste and process mapping is enabling sites to identify opportunities to eliminate waste at source as well as segregate it, allowing it to be more easily reused and recycled.

We will also innovate to reduce waste. By following green chemistry principles, we're starting to identify more recycled ingredients for our products.

➤ For more on this, see our [Product Stewardship Insight](#)

We will continue to use our brands to encourage consumers to behave in ways that avoid waste and help them dispose of packaging responsibly when products are finished. For example, our new powder to liquid solutions for Dettol hand wash in India mean the bottle can be reused up to 20 times.

➤ For more detail, see our [Plastics and Packaging Insight](#)