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## Don't use plastic at home again with these genuinely good eco-friendly alternatives

By Homes | 1 month ago

We don't have to look far to see just how damaging our use and over-reliance of plastics has become. Making easy, small changes at home is a great place for a positive start, especially when companies are inventing fabulous alternatives.

If it's not rubbish on the street, it's our once-pristine oceans suffocating under discarded waste, and packed-to-capacity landfill sites polluting the environment forever more.

It's heartbreaking, and if we continue to consume plastic at our current rate globally, 9.8 trillion kilograms will be in landfills or the natural environment by 2050.

That's the equivalent of 1.8 billion African elephants, according to Greenpeace.

So, what to do?

Of course, all change starts with individual choices, and we can all take simple steps to reduce, reuse and recycle our own rubbish at home.



(Supplied)

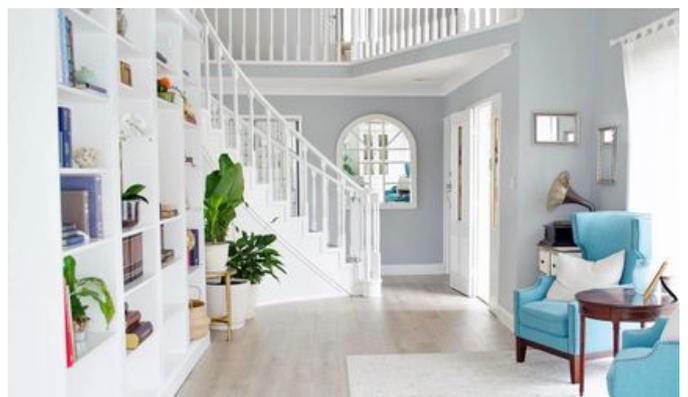
## Reduce soft plastics

When you remove soft plastics from your rubbish bin there’s usually not much left. Not suitable for regular recycling bins, **soft plastic includes any food packaging you can scrunch up, as well as ziploc bags and cling wrap.**

Reducing the amount of soft plastic you bring into your home is the key. Buy in bulk when you can and avoid single serve packets.

Adelaide-based plastics manufacturer, [BioBag World Australia](#) Director Scott Morton, warns we can’t use recycling as an excuse for not reducing our waste.

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“Taking soft plastics back to Coles or Woolworths should be a last resort. We need to send a message to companies that we want them to package products in sustainable materials,” Mr Morton said.

Thankfully, BioBag have launched a resealable sandwich bag! The first of its kind in Australia.



BioBag bags are made using sustainably sourced plant starch and they now include sandwich bags. (Supplied)

There's no reason to buy harmful soft plastic ziploc-style bags again. We are thrilled!

## Recycle and cash in containers

Continue recycling the usual plastic products and check what your local council accepts. Cash in plastic bottles via the container refund scheme if you have one in your area.



(NeONBRAND on Unsplash)

Queensland and New South Wales have joined South Australia, ACT and NT offering 10c per container.

## Line your bin without plastic

“Plastic is made from finite resources such as crude oil which creates carbon emissions and waste disposal issues because it takes centuries to break down,” says Mr Morton.

“We need to use less plastic and find more sustainable alternatives.

“Lining bins with [plant-based BioBags](#) instead of plastic reduces our carbon footprint and stops plastic and microplastic pollution,” Mr Morton said.



Choose environmentally sustainable options to replace regular plastic bags anywhere a bin liner or sack is used (Supplied)

"There are many ways you can reduce your plastic waste and be part of the solution. If each of us make small changes we can create less plastic pollution."



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