

How to improve the recyclability of

HDPE bottles

Bottle

Do: Light weighting.

Don't: Packaging that underperforms, so the product is lost.

Material and colour

Do: mono PE.

Preferred: no colour or light colours.

Adhesives

Do: Water or alkali soluble in 60-80°C.

Difficult in recycling: hot-melts, self-adhesive labels.

Barrier

Only if there is no other solution: EVOH and PA.

Don't: PVDC, any additives that increase the density of HDPE.

Closures and caps

Do: all types of PE (HDPE, MDPE, LDPE, LLDPE), PE with EVA, PP.

Don't: metal, aluminium, PS and PVC.

Labels, sleeves and tamper evidence

Do: As small as possible, sleeves should have partial bottle coverage to be recognised as HDPE.

Preferred: all types of PE (HDPE, MDPE, LDPE, LLDPE), PP and OPP.

Don't: PVC/PS/aluminium/ metallised labels.

Inks and direct printing

Do: Inks that are non-toxic and follow EUPIA guidelines.

Do: Laser marked direct printing.

Avoid: Any other direct printing (unless proven not to be an issue for the recycling process)

Secondary package

Do: Fit for purpose, if the bottle is redesigned, check if the box needs an update too.

More information?

www.pack4recycling.be