








Recycling hieroglyphics revealed!

If you find the various plastic recycling logos confusing – you're not alone! – here is what those weird logos mean:

	<p>PETE or PET = Polyethylene Terephthalate. Usually clear plastic found in cold drink water bottles, beer bottles, salad dressing bottles, mouthwash containers, peanut butter jars. <i>Recycled into tote bags, furniture, paneling, polar fleece.</i></p>
	<p>HDPE = High Density Polyethylene. Usually opaque found in some milk jugs, household cleaners, juice bottles, shampoo bottles, cereal box liners, detergent bottles, butter tubs, toiletries. <i>Recycled into pens, recycling containers, picnic tables, lumber, benches, fencing, detergent bottles.</i></p>
	<p>V or VC or PVC = Vinyl. Usually found in food wrap, plumbing, detergent bottles, (not collected for curb side recycling). May contain certain phthalates bad for health issues. <i>Recycled into paneling, flooring, speed bumps, decks, roadway gutters.</i></p>
	<p>LDPE = Low Density Polyethylene. Usually found in squeezable bottles, shopping bags, Clothing, carpets, frozen food containers, bread wrappers. Considered to be safe. <i>Recycled into compost bins, paneling, trash can liners, floor tiles, shipping envelopes.</i></p>
	<p>PP = Polypropylene. This is one of the safer plastics. Usually found in yoghurt containers, sauce bottles, syrup bottles, medicine containers. <i>Recycled into brooms, car battery cases, bins, pallets, signal light covers, ice scrapers, bicycle racks</i></p>
	<p>PS = POLYSTYRENE which is Styrofoam and is difficult to recycle. It is therefore BAD for the environment as it can leach out toxic chemicals when heated. Most recycling programmes will not accept it. Found in compact disc cases, some egg cartons, meat trays, disposable plates and cups. <i>Recycled into egg cartons, foam packing, insulation.</i></p>
	<p>OTHER/MISCELLANEOUS = Plastics which do not fit into the other six categories. It is a mixed bag which may include some toxic chemicals (BPA) linked to hormone disrupters causing infertility. Found in sun-glasses, IPOD cases, computer cases, nylon, 3-5 litre water bottles, bullet-proof material. <i>Recycled into plastic lumber and other custom-made products.</i></p>