

# RECYCLING MYTHS & FACTS

**DID YOU  
KNOW...**

**30%**

of what Americans put in  
their curbside recycling  
isn't recyclable?

**#RECYCLINGSIMPLIFIED**

## MYTH:

*Pizza boxes  
should always  
be recycled.*



## FACT:

Only clean cardboard can be recycled and turned into new paper products. Grease and toppings soil the box, making it a recycling no-go.



**TIP:** If the top is clean, tear it off and recycle it.

*Plastic bags  
are recyclable.*



If you can push your finger through the plastic, it's too flimsy to recycle at home.



**TIP:** Take plastic grocery bags back to the store.

*Batteries and  
electronics are  
safe to go into  
home recycling.*



Lithium batteries found in electronic devices can explode, causing fires in waste trucks, landfills and recycling centers.



**TIP:** Use electronics recycling programs for anything that has a battery or power cord.

*Wet or dry, it  
doesn't matter.*



Paper and cardboard can't be recycled if they're wet.



**TIP:** Keep paper dry and rinse out containers and shake them dry.

*Yard debris  
is recyclable.*



Branches, leaves and grass clippings should always go in the trash or compost bin.



**TIP:** Never put garden and irrigation hoses in your recycling.

*Clothing can  
be recycled.*



Clothing can be reused but not recycled curbside. Donate used clothing to charity or sell it at a consignment shop.



**TIP:** If clothing is worn out, throw it away or repurpose as rags.

*Disposable diapers  
are plastic so they  
can be recycled.*



Diapers, clean or dirty, cannot be recycled.



**TIP:** Always dispose of them in the trash.

*Bagging recycling  
is okay.*



The sorting process at a recycling facility happens too quickly for workers to open bags. Keep recyclables loose.



**TIP:** Also, don't recycle anything smaller than a credit card.

Visit [RecyclingSimplified.com](https://RecyclingSimplified.com)  
for more tips.

Recycling *Simplified*

