

How can we reduce plastic waste?

I te parakino kirihou?

Let's work together to tackle our plastic waste problem



He aha te rongoa?

How to solve plastic pollution?

Much of our plastic waste comes from single-use food and product packaging and other items we use briefly before throwing out. Governments, businesses and consumers will all need to make changes so that we can tackle the global issue of plastic pollution.

Look out for **refillNZ** stickers to refill your water bottles on the road!



Ngā mahi ā ngā kāwanatanga

What are governments doing?

Regional and international initiatives involving governments and industry are seeking to reduce reliance on unsustainable plastics and encouraging the innovation of new solutions to prevent plastics entering the environment.

The New Zealand government has banned the sale of wash-off products containing microbeads and the distribution of some types of plastic bags. The government also funds waste minimisation initiatives and encourages businesses to take responsibility for their products through stewardship schemes.

He pēwhēa te whakatāharahara?

How can we reduce our reliance on plastics?

By changing how we produce, use and dispose of plastics, we can start to turn the plastics problem around.

- **Eliminate** – Stop using unnecessary plastics
- **Innovate** – Replace plastics with other materials and ensure plastics we do use are reusable, recyclable or compostable
- **Circulate** – Keep plastics in the economy and out of the environment

Take! **Kia kaha** Action **te mahi**

Look at the diagram on the next page for ideas on reducing plastic waste. What ways can you think of to minimise your plastic waste?

MEHEMEA KA MOEMOEĀ AHUA, KO AHAU ANAKE
MEHEMEA KA MOEMOAĀ TĀTOU, KA TAEA E TĀTOU
Nā Te Pūea Hērangi

If I dream, I dream alone. If we all
dream together, we can succeed

Reducing plastic waste in our daily lives

Avoiding single-use plastics and reusing multi-use plastics not only reduces plastic waste but also encourages businesses to offer more sustainable alternatives.

Ways to reduce your plastic waste:



Reduce
Stop using unnecessary plastics



Reuse/Replace
Swap single use plastics for reusable plastics or other materials



Recycle
Keep plastics in the economy and out of the ocean



Recycle
Fix broken items that have plastic parts so they can be used again

At home



Liquid soap and shampoo



Soap and shampoo bars



Single use containers



Reuse jars and containers



Plastic glitter and balloons



Recyclable and paper decorations

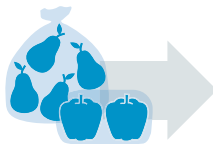


Dispose damaged items



Repair items

Going shopping



Plastic wrapped produce



Loose produce in reusable bags



Synthetic clothing



Natural fibre clothing



Plastic packaged items



Buy in bulk in reusable containers



Low quality products



Good quality long lasting products

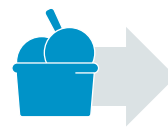
On the road



Plastic bottle



Reusable bottle



Plastic cup



Ice cream cone



Plastic wrapped convenience food



Pack your own lunch and snacks



Take away cup



Reusable cup



royalsociety.org.nz/plastics

ROYAL SOCIETY TE APĀRANGI