

SHADES OF RECYCLING



 Recycling today is more convenient than ever. However, the Houston Chronicle recently reported a downturn in recycling income due to several factors, especially people who recycle the wrong items. A wrong item in the sorting process can cause a shutdown, which is costly to all of us.

What Shade of RECYCLER Are YOU?



GRAY means you don't recycle. Fine, this is America.
We assume you don't litter....



LIGHT GREEN means you're open to recycling plastic water bottles, aluminum cans and paper. That's if recycling containers are available and others are doing it, because you don't mind helping out.



MEDIUM GREEN means you're recycling curbside or delivering to a drop-off. The Mayor's Office recently made recycling containers available to each city resident on the Houston Solid Waste collection route. As you already know, recyclables are:

- Plastic: bottles & jugs (marked with #1, #2, #5, #7)
- Metal: aluminum & tin cans, empty aerosol cans
- Paper: magazines, newspapers, mail, telephone books, office paper, etc.
- Cardboard: clean corrugated & fiberboard
- Glass: bottles—not everywhere, depends on your service provider



DARK GREEN means you are already recycling the usual and plastic bags, clothing, and household hazardous waste. You're also home composting food and yard waste, which make up 25% of the landfill waste stream, producing methane: which is 25 times more destructive to the air than carbon dioxide. Dark Greens also encourage everyone to help out.

What's your GREEN IQ?



Take a Quiz

1 How much less water & energy are used in producing recycled paper vs. virgin paper?

- A. 55% less water and 60-70% less energy.
- B. 7.5% less water and 12-15% less energy.
- C. It takes more energy to produce recycled paper than virgin paper.
- D. 30% less water and 15% less energy.

2 The best "energy return" product to recycle (compared to using virgin material)?

- A. Aluminum cans
- B. Paper
- C. Cardboard
- D. Plastics

3 Electronic waste is responsible for ___% of hazardous chemicals in landfills?

- A. 30%
- B. 50%
- C. 70%
- D. 90%

4 All plastic is recyclable with municipal curbside recycling.

TRUE or FALSE

5 In a lifetime, a person generates how much garbage compared to their adult weight?

- A. 120 times
- B. 200 times
- C. 300 times
- D. 600 times

6 Food waste naturally decomposes in the landfill, so it's the least of our landfill problems.

TRUE or FALSE

7 What makes the circuit board one of the most sought after pieces of electronic waste?

- A. Contains metals with commercial value
- B. Readily available
- C. Easiest to work with
- D. Contains no toxic elements

GREEN RESULTS

0-2: Time to take the 1st step & learn how you can start recycling & composting.

3-5: You know the basics of recycling; now you can learn even more tips on making green choices.

6-7: You're a recycling superhero! Time to take your knowledge & make a difference!