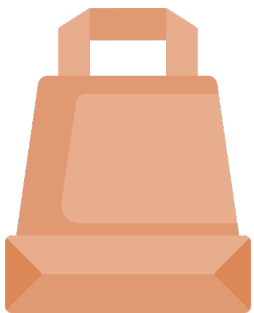


Food Waste - Which Bag Is Best?

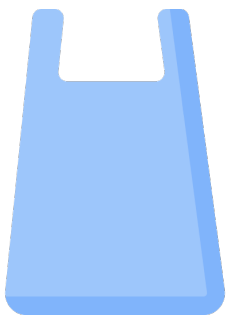
As food waste becomes a more recognised issue, many local authorities have begun offering kerbside food waste collections. Providing households with a food caddy to capture and contain their food waste, but which bag is best to line these new bins?

A recent study was carried out, with some interesting results:



Paper Bags

Often seen as a greener option due to paper's high recyclability, but this was highly disliked by users. They found using paper bags to line their caddies very messy and unreliable, the bags often ripped when the wet nature of the food weakened the bag's material.



Plastic (Polyethylene) Bags

Although the cheaper option, there were aspects of plastic liners that caused a lot of issues. Primarily this was problems with contamination. Plastic bags had far higher contamination levels, particularly with similar plastic materials. It was thought that users were more likely to include plastic waste to match the bag material.



'Naked Caddy' - No Liner

At first, not including a liner would seem the most cost-effective option, but in reality, it is not. The cost is not the only downside, the quality of the waste also saw the worst results. And just like paper bags, users did not like the messy and smelly aspect of the no liner option.



Compostable Liner

The product that outshone all the others in every aspect was the compostable bag. A cost-effective option, which saw a great result in both the quality of waste & minimal risks (no contamination) and minimal GHG emissions. The compostable liner came out on top as the best product to capture food waste and recycling.