

New rules for takeaway
food and drink

Compulsory Reusable Containers

Düsseldorf
Live close Feel free



New rules for takeaway food and drink

What do catering businesses need to know?

There is a new packaging law (VerpackG2) to protect the environment and the climate: less single-use plastic packaging is to be used for takeaway food and beverages, for example coffee cups (coffee-to-go) or food boxes (takeaway food). In addition to single-use cups and single-use packaging made of plastic or with a plastic content, providers of takeaway food and beverages must offer packaging that can be used multiple times. Packaging with a plastic coating is also considered single-use plastic packaging (VerpackG2, Sections 33 and 34). Different rules apply for small establishments*. The new rules apply from January 1, 2023.

For questions regarding the legal framework, please contact: phone 0211 89-25110, abfallvermeidung@duesseldorf.de

Rules for large establishments

Offer reusable packaging for takeaway food and beverages

If an establishment offers single-use plastic packaging, it must also offer reusable packaging as an alternative.

- Option 1: The establishment can buy its own reusable packaging, for example made of plastic or glass.
- Option 2: The establishment can cooperate with a company that offers reusable packaging (pool reusable system).

Equal chances for reusable and single-use packaging

- Food and beverages in reusable packaging must not be more expensive.
- No discounts or other benefits may be given for food and beverages in single-use packaging.
- A deposit may be charged on reusable packaging.

Information for customers

- Establishments must display clearly visible and legible information in the sales area about reusable packaging, for example on signs or posters.
- These signs or posters must unambiguously inform customers that they can also get their food in reusable containers at the location.

Taking back reusable packaging and hygiene

- Establishments must take back the reusable packaging that they distribute.
- Rules apply (hygiene regulations) for taking back, cleaning and serving the cups or bowls. The rules must be observed.
- Establishments must collect dirty packaging separately. Dirty packaging must not be placed near food.

If you have any questions regarding the hygiene regulations and their implementation in the establishments, please contact the food monitoring department in the Office for Environmental and Consumer Protection (phone 0211 89-93242, veterinaeramt@duesseldorf.de).

Rules for small establishments*

Filling customers' containers

- If requested by the customer, establishments must fill food and beverages into cups or bowls brought by the customer.

Information for customers

- Establishments must post prominent and legible information signs indicating that they fill food or beverages into containers brought in by customers.

Hygiene and responsibilities

- Establishments have no responsibility for ensuring that containers brought in are suitable for transporting food.
- When filling containers, applicable hygiene regulations and food safety requirements must be observed.

* **Small establishment:** sales area up to 80 square metres (including freely accessible seating and lounge areas) and a maximum of five employees. In the case of chains, the entire workforce of a chain counts. If the establishment also delivers, the storage area and shipping area are added to the sales area.



Landeshauptstadt Düsseldorf
Umwelt- und Verbraucherschutz

Herausgegeben von der

Landeshauptstadt Düsseldorf
Amt für Umwelt- und Verbraucherschutz
Brinckmannstraße 7, 40225 Düsseldorf

Verantwortlich Thomas Loosen

IV/23-.3

www.duesseldorf.de/umweltamt

klimaneutral gedruckt auf 100 Prozent Recyclingpapier

© HIRAMAN - iStock

