

# BOTTLES REBORN

Polyethylene terephthalate

## How Your PET Bottles Get Recycled

PET is a type of plastic that's commonly used in food packaging like bottles and trays.

When you recycle PET bottles, they can be turned into new bottles using up to 100% recycled material, making this recycling process a shining example of the circular economy!

### BUT HOW DOES IT ALL HAPPEN?

#### 1. COLLECTION

PET bottles are collected with other household waste, and in some countries, there is a "Deposit Return Scheme" where you get money back when you return your bottle.

Collection via Deposit Return Scheme ensures a higher quality of recyclates.



#### 2. SORTING

Once collected, the bottles are sorted, firstly, by colour—since dark colours can't be recycled back into light ones—and also by material type to guarantee the highest-quality recycled

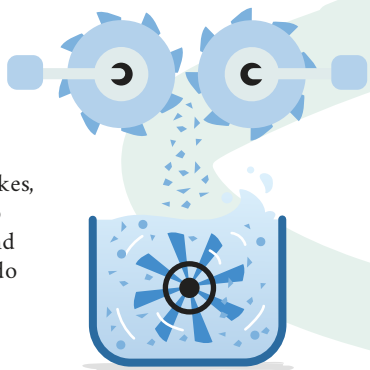
Large labels and sleeves hurt this stage by preventing PET packages from being properly detected.



#### 3. GRINDING & WASHING

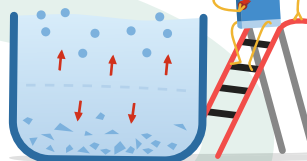
Bottles are turned into flakes, which are washed twice to remove all residue, dirt, and glue – just like when you do laundry!

Recycled material intended to be used back in beverage bottles undergo specific cleaning and decontamination steps to ensure their safety.



#### 4. DENSITY SEPARATION

Flakes are placed in a float-sink tank where different types of plastic are separated based on their density, with PET sinking while caps and labels float.



#### 5. EXTRUSION

Washed flakes are sorted by colour, before being melted and turned into a final product.

