



Food Service Accessories

SINGLE-USE & PLASTIC WASTE PREVENTION REGULATION

gov.bc.ca/reuse

What counts as a food service accessory?

Single-use items often given to customers with prepared food and drinks.

What you need to know

As of December 20, 2023, B.C. food service providers can no longer offer single-use (disposable) plastic utensils.

PROHIBITED



Food services providers can give out other disposable items only on request and at self-serve stations.

AVAILABLE BY REQUEST



What you need to do

1. Stop using plastic utensils

Don't provide customers with single-use plastic knives, forks, spoons, chopsticks, stir sticks or splash plugs - including those made partly of plastic and those made with compostable, biodegradable or oxo-degradable plastic.

2. Stop offering packets of single-use items

Don't provide customers with bundled disposables, such as a fork and knife or chopsticks packaged together with a napkin.

3. Only provide other single-use accessories on request

Don't automatically give out disposables. These items are only to be provided when a customer asks for them, takes them from a self-serve station, or accepts them when offered by staff or through an online order form.

4. Keep records

If you operate an online food-delivery platform and take orders for more than one food service provider, you need to keep a record of the percentage of deliveries that request or accept food service accessories. Records must be kept for two calendar years.

What single-use accessories can be provided on request?

AVAILABLE BY REQUEST



Wooden utensils



Condiments



Drink cup lids and sleeves



Napkins and wet wipes



Straws



Garnishes
(e.g., plastic sushi grass,
drink umbrellas)

These items are exempt in **some situations** under the regulation

EXEMPTIONS



Lids for drinks purchased at a drive-through window or for delivery or pick-up



Single-use accessories (individual or bundled) for use in care facilities

This fact sheet is part of a toolkit produced to help B.C. businesses comply with the regulation.

Looking for options to single-use plastics? Find our handy alternatives guide, plus fact sheets on other restricted items and additional printable tools – including posters and signs that you can use to inform your staff and customers – at gov.bc.ca/reuse.



Through the Single-Use and Plastic Waste Prevention Regulation, B.C. is phasing out many hard-to-recycle single-use plastic items – reducing waste, protecting our environment, and creating a cleaner future for all British Columbians.



Ministry of
Environment and
Climate Change Strategy