

# Soon, you must offer reusable food containers and cups in your service.

## Are you selling fast food in disposable containers or drinks in disposable cups?

Starting on January 1st, 2024, according to Regulation SFS 2021:996, you must offer your customers the option to purchase **reusable** containers for their food and **reusable** cups for their drinks. “Reusable” entails that the container/cup is designed to be used multiple times and that the reusable item can be washed by someone other than the user. This change is being implemented to reduce resource consumption and subsequent littering.

*The reusable cups and food containers you choose to offer should have the least negative impact on the environment and human health. They should also be part of a rotation system so that they can be used multiple times.*

### You must also inform your customers about:

1. The environmental impact of using disposable cups and containers.
2. The benefits of reducing the consumption of disposable cups and containers.

This information should be clearly displayed at the point of sale and easily accessible to customers. ”Håll Sverige Rent” provides useful material that can be accessed through this link for free: [link »](#)

## Who does this requirement apply to?

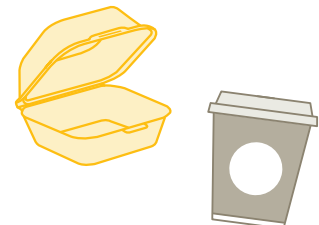
This requirement applies to all on-the-go retailers that serve food and drinks in disposable containers/cups. This includes restaurants, cafes, kiosks, grocery stores, food trucks, and festival organisers.

### Number of cups and containers:

The requirement applies to all on-the-go retailers that provide on average 150 or more disposable containers/cups per day. The total number of containers/cups sold per any given day is calculated once the point of sale is open.

**Example:** Your business is open 100 days during the year and you sell a total of 10,000 take-away coffees in disposable cups and 8,000 take-away food boxes in disposable containers. This means that your business has a total consumption of 180 containers/cups per day placing your business over the maximum threshold. Starting on January 1st 2024 your business must offer reusable containers/cups to customers.

In 2026, the threshold will be lowered to 75 disposable containers and cups.



## There are certain exceptions:

If you provide disposable containers/cups made entirely of paper, then this requirement does not apply to you. It is important to note, however, that many types of paper container/cups often contain some plastic. This means that an exemption from the new regulation does not apply.

The requirements do not apply in cases where fast food or beverages have been packaged in a disposable food container or a disposable cup by an actor in the distribution chain independent of the actor who ultimately provides the fast food or beverage. If you only sell such fast food/drink, you do not need to offer reusable. If parts of your assortment consist of fast food/drink that is not pre-packaged, the requirements still apply.

### Soft packaging:

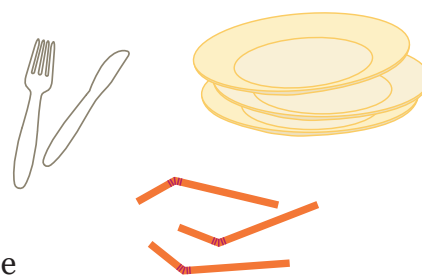
This type of packaging is usually made up of some form of flexible wrapping. These types of soft packaging are not subject to the new regulation. Flexible wrappers are made of softer materials such as paper wrappers for hamburgers or plastic wrappers for sandwiches.

If you sell food or drink and do not offer the option of reusable containers or cups to your customers then you may have to pay an environmental sanction fee of 10,000 SEK starting from January 1, 2024. Individual municipalities are responsible for oversight.

Starting January 1st, 2024, disposable cups containing more than 15% plastic will be **banned completely**.

Disposable plastic items that have already been banned since 2022 include:

- Utensils, including chopsticks
- Plates
- Straws
- Stirrers
- Products made from oxo-degradable plastic
- Food and drink containers made of expanded polystyrene (such as styrofoam) and designed for direct consumption



If you continue to sell prohibited plastic disposable products, you may be subject to pay an environmental sanction fee.

### More information:

[Guidance from the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency](#)

[Information about single-use plastics and which products are prohibited](#)