

Packaging Information for Essential Branded Packs & Bulk Commodities

Our Commitment

We aim to be totally transparent and accommodating by providing clear packaging information for our own brand and bulk products. Sustainability is one of our core values and we are constantly working to innovate our range and reduce our packaging waste.

Essential branded packs

Retail packs

Our branded leaf-detail retail packs are made of PP type 5 plastic and unfortunately cannot currently be recycled via kerbside collection in most counties.

Catering size packs

Our larger packs of 5kg clear plastic packs are made of polythene and can be recycled by some local authorities and at carrier bag collection points in all major UK supermarkets.

Paper packs

We have updated our packs of flour to 100% recyclable paper packaging and sealed with paper tape. This replaces the plastic tape that dominates packaging throughout the world.

Teas

Our tea bags are plastic-free. We use a cotton stitched envelope and unbleached teabags. In order to keep the teas fresh inside their box, each individual box comes wrapped in type 5 plastic.

Retail herb and spice packs

Our herb and spice packs are made of cardboard and have a Natureflex inner. This is all home-compostable.

Steel & Aluminium

We sell a number of retail and catering sized products in steel cans which are widely recycled. One concern around canned goods is the presence of BPA (Bisphenol A), but our products are all BPA non-intent. This includes Essential tomato puree, packed in aluminium tubes with recyclable plastic lids.

Glass jars

Essential products are packed in glass jars with (no added BPA) "tin plate" (steel) lids – all fully recyclable. We encourage the re-use of glass jars before opting to recycle; our large soup jars in particular make a great refillable container! Visit your local Essential-supplied retailer to fill them with a range of beautiful grains and pulses.

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Pasta

Retail Packs come in plastic within a cardboard outer. Catering Packs are plastic free except Spaghetti.

Oils

5 litre oil packed in recyclable plastic.

500ml oil packed in glass jars with a recyclable plastic lid.

Toilet tissue

Our 100% recycled and award-winning toilet tissue is packed in compostable film.

Bulk commodities

Our bulk commodities are sourced from multiple producers all over the world. As such, the packaging is liable to change throughout the year. The below attempts to give an generalised overview but due to the nature of the industry, we are unable to provide any guarantees as to which materials various bulk commodities will be packed in.

Paper

We will nearly always receive the following products in a recyclable paper sack:

- Cereals/Flour
- Beans & Pulses
- Many Seeds

Plastic

To protect the more susceptible produce from insects, environmental damage or decay, it is necessary for some bulk commodities to be packed inside a plastic bag within the cardboard outer. These products include:

- Some fruits, for example vine fruits. These are lightly coated in oil in order to stop them sticking together. Without the plastic, the cardboard outer would be compromised
- Nuts
- Some of the more oily seeds

Variations

Due to the variety of producers that we buy from, we expect a particular fluctuation in packaging for the following item:

- Rice (paper or plastic sack)