

GARBAGE SEPARATION IN GERMANY

Every building in Germany with people living in it has garbage containers for different types of waste. They are emptied regularly by the city's garbage collectors. Some waste can be recycled. This kind is sorted into different containers. Waste that can be recycled includes **bio-degradable things, wastepaper, packaging, and used glass**. Part of the waste cannot be recycled. This so-called **residual waste** ("Restmüll") has a container, too.



CUT COSTS BY SORTING WASTE

The costs for residual waste are the highest. The tenants pay these costs as part of the rent. The less residual waste there is, the fewer containers needed at the apartment building. This makes the costs lower for all tenants.



→ **TIP 1:** Presort your trash in your apartment by collecting it in separate containers.

SEPARATE GARBAGE CONTAINERS AT APARTMENT BUILDINGS

You empty the wastebaskets in your apartment into the correct garbage containers at your apartment house.



→ **TIP 2:** Always put the trash in the proper container, never next to it.

→ **TIP 3:** Take used glass to special collection spots. These are big containers that are located next to the street in most neighborhoods.

BIODEGRADABLE	WASTEPAPER	PACKAGING WASTE	RESIDUAL WASTE	USED GLASS
 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vegetable scraps Fruit waste Old bread Eggshells Garden refuse Coffee grounds Fish bones 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paper packaging Cardboard boxes Throw-away advertising Newspapers Cardboard 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Packaging with the Green Dot logo or Grüner Punkt Plastic Plastic drink bottles 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Light bulbs Disposable diapers Hygiene articles Vacuum cleaner bags 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Glass packaging Beverage bottles

BULKY WASTE

Things you want to throw away that are too big for normal garbage collection are called bulky waste ("Sperrmüll"), for example, mattresses, furniture, lamps, rugs and carpets, children's carseats, shelves, chairs, suitcases, etc.

Bulky waste can either be picked up by a special disposal company or taken to a recycling center. Never abandon it on the street.

Bulky Waste Pickup: Use the German term "Sperrmüll abholen" and the name of your city to search the Internet for the right company. Arrange a time and day for the pickup with them. Often the landlord will also arrange and announce a bulky waste pickup date for the whole building.



➔ **TIP 4:** Please note that different companies' prices and agreements on pickup times might not be the same.

Self-delivery of bulky waste: You can take bulky waste yourself to a recycling center in your city.

➔ **TIP 5:** You can find out the recycling centers' addresses, prices and business hours by calling the city administration or on the Internet.

HAZARDOUS WASTE

Used batteries and rechargeable batteries contain toxic substances and are not allowed to be put in with the residual waste.

➔ **TIP 6:** In most supermarkets there are collection boxes for batteries.

Medication that is no longer needed, or is too old, is not allowed in the residual waste.

➔ **TIP 7:** You can take your old medication to a pharmacy or to a recycling center.

Clean hallways, stairwells, sidewalks and pathways, courtyards, streets and parks improve the quality of life in our homes and cities. Sorting waste is necessary for this. Please do your part!



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