

SINGLE USE MATERIALS

What's the difference between compostable, biodegradable and degradable? Which one should you be using?

MATERIAL	SOURCE / BASE INGREDIENT	DURABLE FOR PACKAGING	DISPOSAL METHOD	BIODEGRADABLE
Plastic	Petrochemicals	Yes	Ideally recycled usually landfill	No - remains plastic or breaks into micro-plastics (lasting forever)
Biodegradable or Bio-plastic	Plant cellulose / corn starch	Yes	Ideally Industrial composting usually landfill	Not without special industrial treatment
Bagasse	Sugar cane pulp	Yes	Can be industrially composted, often landfilled	Yes home compostable
Bamboo / Wood	Bamboo plantation	Yes	Can be home or industrially composted, often landfilled	Yes
Paper / Cardboard	Wood pulp/ recycled paper / trees	Limited, depends on usage & conditions	Can be recycled if not contaminated, can be composted	Yes
Home Compostable Packaging	Crustacean shell, mushroom fibre, seaweed	Intentionally yes, still being tested	Designed for home compost / to be highly degradable	Yes, designed to be highly degradable, will enrich soil



Don't forget, REUSABLE is best! #hellobyo



Accreditations & Certifications to look out for when purchasing Bioplastics & Home Compost Cardboard & Paper



AS 4736
ABAX 9999



AS 5810
ABAX 9999



PARTNERS



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