

Plastic Bag Bans in Australia

State	Banned Bags	Accepted Greenmark Alternatives
NSW	No bans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Paper bags ✓ Compostable bags
QLD	<p style="text-align: center;">1 July 2018</p> Lightweight checkout plastic bags (<35microns thick) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Compostable bags ✗ Biodegradable bags ✗ Degradable bags 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Paper bags
VIC	<p style="text-align: center;">1 November 2019</p> Lightweight checkout plastic bags (<35microns thick) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Compostable bags ✗ Biodegradable bags ✗ Degradable bags 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Paper bags
NT	<p style="text-align: center;">1 September 2011</p> Lightweight checkout plastic bags (<35microns thick) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Degradable bags 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Paper bags ✓ Compostable bags
SA	<p style="text-align: center;">4 May 2009</p> Lightweight checkout plastic bags (< 35microns thick)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Paper bags ✓ Compostable bags
WA	<p style="text-align: center;">1 July 2018</p> Lightweight checkout plastic bags (<35microns thick) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Compostable bags ✗ Biodegradable bags ✗ Degradable bags 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Paper bags
TAS	<p style="text-align: center;">1 November 2013</p> Lightweight checkout plastic bags (< 35microns thick)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Paper bags ✓ Compostable bags
ACT	<p style="text-align: center;">1 November 2011</p> Lightweight checkout plastic bags (< 35microns thick) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Degradable bags 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Paper bags ✓ Compostable bags

Australia is slowly waking up to the damage single-use plastics cause to our environment. Every year, 12.7 million tonnes of plastic waste are dumped into our oceans – so much that there will be more plastic waste than fish in our oceans by 2050. What’s more, plastic can never completely degrade as they break down into micro-plastics, remaining as an environmental hazard and consumed by our marine life.

It’s time to take action – not only by reducing your own environmental impact, but also being the voice of change within your community to encourage other local businesses and governments to join the plastic-free movement.

There have been high levels of support in banning single-use plastic items since an extensive range of high-quality alternatives are already widely available. A switch to compostable packaging can significantly minimise the demand for oil-based products and reduce the amount of plastic pollution entering our natural environments.

