

## How to use your black box recycling – video transcript

A recycling collections vehicle moves down the road and stops, on the side is a poster advertising the council's new 'love food, hate waste' campaign. Then, standing beside the vehicle is the crew. They introduce themselves as Derek: the driver, Andy: a loader, and Adrian: also a loader. They then proceed to talk us through how to use black box recycling scheme.

Derek demonstrates two perfectly organised boxes. The first contains plastic bottles, tin cans, cardboard and paper all mixed together. The second contains glass only. Andy then goes on to say you can also recycle household batteries, which need to be placed in a clear bag and placed on top of the box. He also informs us that aerosol cans, empty and with lids removed, are a new addition to what can be recycled. They need to be placed into the box containing plastic bottles, tin cans, paper and cardboard.

Adrian then talks us through some of the common things that cannot be recycled in the black box scheme. Firstly is food and drink 'tetra-pak' cartons, although these can be taken to a communal recycling bank and placed into the appropriate bin. Secondly, no heavier metals such as saucepans and baking trays are permitted. He tells us that plastic bottles - such as drink, washing up liquid and shampoo bottles - are the only kind of plastic acceptable, no plastic food packaging will be taken.

Andy explains that cardboard must be cut to a size that will fit into one of the black boxes, as anything bigger will fill the vehicle up too quickly because it does not have a crushing mechanism.

Derek explains the possible problems that occur when any container other than the official black box is used. He states that other boxes may be too dangerous to pick up, which is demonstrated by a shot of a flimsy box overflowing with glass bottles, which may fall and smash if disturbed. He also states that Brighton & Hove City Council boxes are specially designed to hook onto the side of the collection vehicle so that they may be emptied safely and quickly, which is demonstrated by a shot of an official box piled up with glass bottles being handled safely and efficiently.

Derek then speaks about how to place your box ready for collection on your designated day. The first rule is to place your box on the front edge of your property. He explains that on average a crew will visit 800 properties in a day, so if every box were to be collected from more than a few feet up driveways, pathways, at the top of stairs, or over walls it would take a massive amount of time and would not be possible in a single day.

We then cut to a shot of a bag of rubbish that has been attacked by a seagull, who has strewn the refuse about the pavement and is feeding on its contents. Adrian says that all waste should be contained in a bin, and absolutely no refuse should be put into your black recycling box as it will only be left behind. It will then attract pests and vermin, causing germs to spread. He goes on to explain that recyclable materials should be cleaned before being

put into your box for collection, all it usually takes is a quick rinse in the sink. To demonstrate he holds up a bottle of wine - still half full - which someone has placed into their box.

Derek explains that a problem he often encounters as a driver, is cars being parked in awkward places. He states that double parking in the road or parking on corners can delay collections, and may lead to a whole road of properties being missed. The crew always work hard to catch up the following day, but sometimes they have many problems and fall steadily behind, causing a gradually increasing number of missed residences which they may not be able to catch up on.

Derek then invites you to approach your crew if you have any questions about recycling. They are professionals and will be only too happy to help.

Working together, looking after our city.

There are several other points of contact if you require more information, they are as follows.

Official Cityclean website

[www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/cityclean](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/cityclean)

Official Cityclean Facebook page

[www.facebook.com/recyclingandrefuse](http://www.facebook.com/recyclingandrefuse)

Cityclean e-mail address

[cityclean@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:cityclean@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

Cityclean telephone number

(01273) 292929