

A decorative border composed of a grid of colored squares surrounds the central text. The top border is a single row of 10 squares in various colors. The left border is a 4x4 grid of 16 squares. The bottom border is a 3x10 grid of 30 squares. The right border is a single row of 10 squares. The colors include shades of green, blue, orange, red, purple, grey, and brown.

USER MANUAL

LABELLING SYSTEM FOR KERBSIDE COLLECTION AND RECYCLING CENTRES
AVFALL SVERIGE, 13 OCTOBER 2020, VERSION 1.2

Contents

Preface	3
Kerbside Collection	4
Overview – categories for fractions	4
Overview – symbols for fractions	5
Colour codes	7
Other languages	8
Recycling centres	9
Overview – categories for fractions	9
Overview – symbols for fractions	10
Colour codes	18
Other languages	19
Application of the system	25
Basic instructions	25
Original files	25
Adaptations	28
Positioning and print for increased accessibility	30
Standalone use of icons	31
File formats and colour systems	32
Frequently asked questions	33
Contact	35

Preface

Welcome to your new labelling system!

In your hand is a manual with user information for a common symbol and labelling system for waste sorting. A system that works for kerbside collection, at recycling centres and in the city. A system that makes it easy to do the right thing.

After carefully mapping out the many different types of symbols that exist around the country when collecting waste, Avfall Sverige has developed a national system for colour coding, symbols and terminology for waste fractions.

The system should make things easier for both individuals and organisations. Using a uniform symbol and sign system that is easy to recognise throughout the country, we can reach higher recycling goals and an increased volume of the right material to the right treatment. This is achieved through simplicity, clarity and a systematic approach for citizens and companies.

A common system also saves money for users in the process of changing signs. Here, you have a well-thought-out and detailed symbol language that is ready to use. To ensure relevance and functionality, the symbol and sign system was developed and tested in collaboration with municipalities as well as industry and producer organisations.

Municipalities and producers may use the system free of charge. Naturally, if and when you want to use and introduce the system is voluntary.

The model for this system has been in use in Denmark with great success since 2017. Other Nordic countries have or plan to implement similar systems. The system therefore makes it easier for companies with sales and producer responsibility throughout the Nordic region by enabling use of the same symbols on packaging and products in all of the Nordic countries.

When citizens encounter the same waste communication, regardless of where we are, we increase the conditions for increased sorting and recycling. In this way, we move closer towards achieving the circular economy. More information about the new labelling system, what it looks like, and how it should be used can be found in this user manual.

Malmö, 1 July 2020

Tony Clark, Managing Director Avfall Sverige

Would you like to learn more about the system?

Contact Josefin Berglund, info@avfallsverige.se.

Implementation and design

Hire a graphic designer or production company you normally work with or you have a framework agreement with to help produce materials for your use. You can also contact Gullers Grupp, who was involved in the creation of this manual, www.gullers.se, project manager Gertrud Hermansen, gertrud.hermansen@gullers.se. Costs for work and productions related to this are borne by your own organisation.

Kerbside collection

Overview – categories for fractions

The Swedish labelling system for waste sorting is divided into one part for kerbside collection and one part for recycling centres.

This chapter covers the parts of the labelling system for kerbside collection. It has ten fraction categories, each with its own category colour linked to it. Some of these fractions are also collected via recycling stations and in the city.

GARDEN WASTE



FOOD WASTE



GLASS



PAPER



CARDBOARD



ELECTRONIC WASTE



HAZARDOUS WASTE



PLASTIC



METAL



RESIDUAL WASTE



Overview – symbols for fractions

The ten fraction categories in the labelling system for kerbside collection include 18 symbols, each of which consists of three elements: *colour*, *symbol* and *fraction name*.

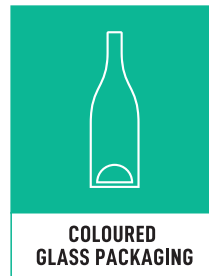
GARDEN WASTE



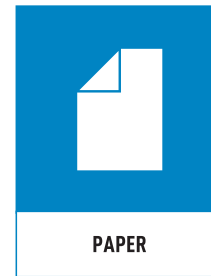
FOOD WASTE



GLASS



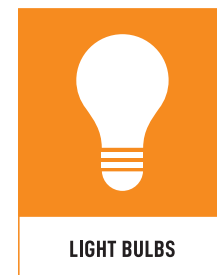
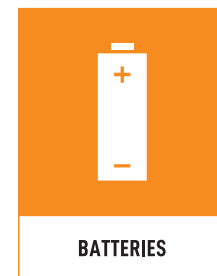
PAPER



CARDBOARD



ELECTRONIC WASTE



Overview – symbols for fractions

The ten fraction categories in the labelling system for kerbside collection include 18 symbols, each of which consists of three elements: *colour*, *symbol* and *fraction name*.

When sorted, plastic packaging is sometimes divided into hard and soft plastic packaging. These symbols are also available at avfallssverige.se.

HAZARDOUS WASTE



PLASTIC



METAL



RESIDUAL WASTE



Colour codes

GARDEN WASTE



CMYK 80 0 90 50
PANTONE 349 C
RGB 0 100 50
HEX #006432
RAL 6001 (EMERALD GREEN)

FOOD WASTE



CMYK 80 0 90 0
PANTONE 7482 C
RGB 0 160 75
HEX #00a04b
RAL 6037 (PURE GREEN)

GLASS



CMYK 75 0 55 0
PANTONE 2401 C
RGB 30 175 140
HEX #1daf8e
RAL 6027 (LIGHT GREEN)

PAPER



CMYK 95 35 5 0
PANTONE 2185 C
RGB 0 130 190
HEX #0082be
RAL 5015 (SKY BLUE)

CARDBOARD



CMYK 25 35 65 5
PANTONE 7562 C
RGB 190 160 100
HEX #bea064
RAL 1024 (OCHRE YELLOW)

ELECTRONIC WASTE



CMYK 0 55 100 0
PANTONE 144 C
RGB 240 145 10
HEX #f0910a
RAL 2008 (BRIGHT RED ORANGE)

HAZARDOUS WASTE



CMYK 0 100 90 0
PANTONE 485 C
RGB 225 15 30
HEX #e10f1e
RAL 3020 (TRAFFIC RED)

PLASTIC



CMYK 50 95 0 0
PANTONE 7656 C
RGB 150 30 130
HEX #961e82
RAL 4008 (SIGNAL VIOLET)

METAL



CMYK 25 0 0 65
PANTONE 444 C
RGB 90 110 120
HEX #5a6e78
RAL 7031 (BLUE GREY)

RESIDUAL WASTE



CMYK 20 20 20 100
PANTONE BLACK 6 C
RGB 20 20 20
HEX #141414
RAL 9005 (JET BLACK)

Other languages

Below you will find the names of the fractions listed in Swedish and German.



Garden waste
Trädgårdsavfall
Gartenabfall



Newspapers
Tidningar
Zeitungen



Light bulbs
Ljuskällor
Glühbirnen & Lampen



Bulky waste
Grovavfall
Sperrmüll



Food waste
Matavfall
Lebensmittelabfälle



Paper packaging
Pappersförpackningar
Speise- & Getränkekartons



Hazardous waste
Farligt avfall
Sondermüll & Schadstoffe



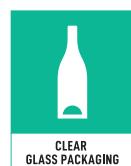
Coloured glass packaging
Färgade glasförpackningar
Gefärbte Glasverpackungen



Cardboard
Wellpapp
Altpappe



Plastic packaging
Plastförpackningar
Plastikverpackungen



Clear glass packaging
Ofärgade plastförpackningar
Farblose Glasverpackungen



Small electronics
Småelektronik
Elektrokleingeräte



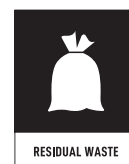
Metal packaging
Metallförpackningar
Altmallverpackungen



Paper
Papper
Altpapier



Batteries
Batterier
Altbatterien



Residual waste
Restavfall
Restmüll

Recycling centres

Overview – categories for fractions

This chapter covers the parts of the labelling system for recycling centres.

It has twelve fraction categories, each with its own category colour linked to it. Some of these fractions are also collected via kerbside collection and in the city.

GARDEN WASTE



COOKING OIL



REUSE



GLASS



PAPER



CONSTRUCTION WASTE



CARDBOARD



ELECTRONIC WASTE



HAZARDOUS WASTE



PLASTIC



METAL



RESIDUAL WASTE



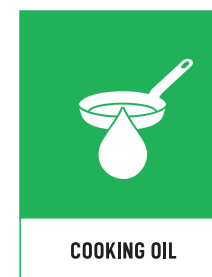
Overview – symbols for fractions

The twelve fraction categories in the labelling system for recycling centres include 83 symbols, each of which consists of three elements: *colour*, *symbol* and *fraction name*.

GARDEN WASTE, etc.

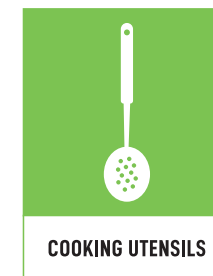
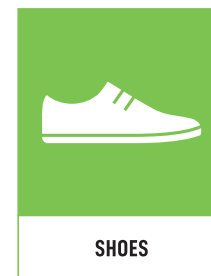
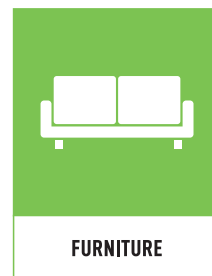


COOKING OIL



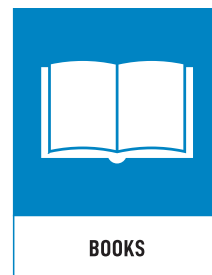
Overview – symbols for fractions

REUSE

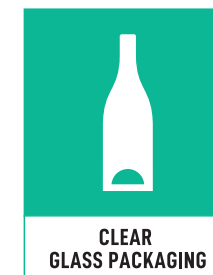


Overview – symbols for fractions

PAPER



GLASS PACKAGING



PAPER PACKAGING

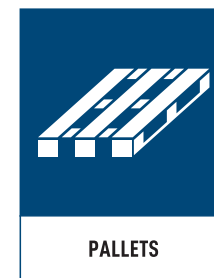


METAL



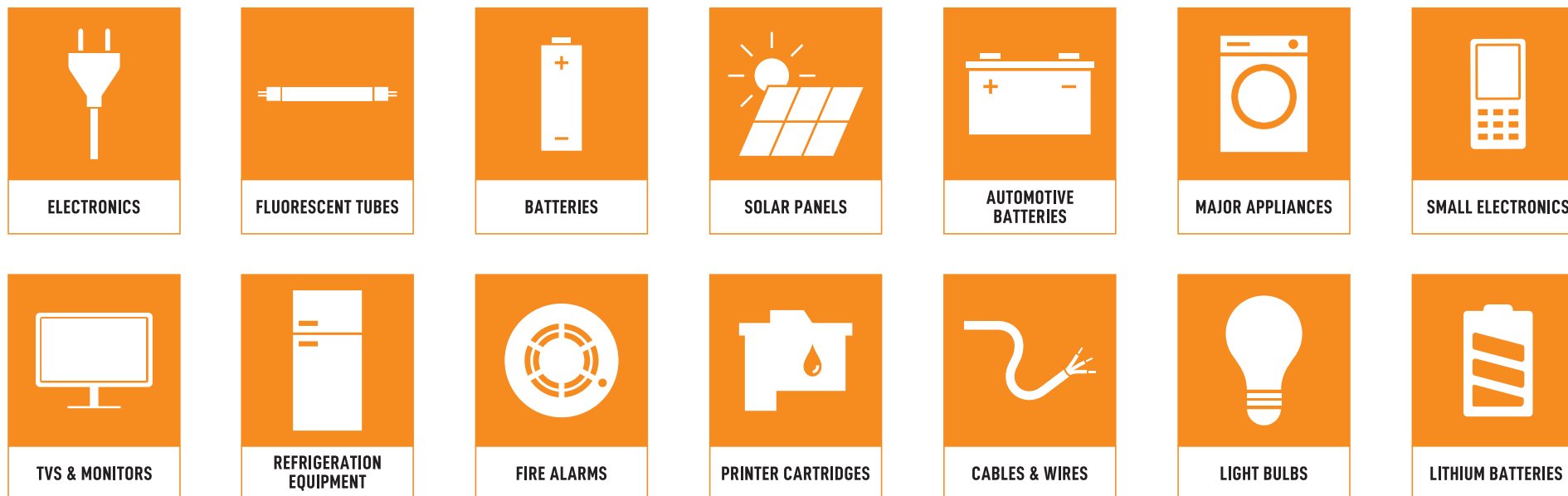
Overview – symbols for fractions

CONSTRUCTION WASTE



Overview – symbols for fractions

ELECTRONIC WASTE



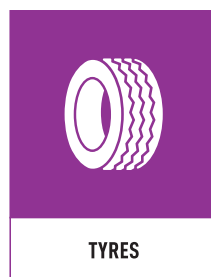
Overview – symbols for fractions

HAZARDOUS WASTE

						
HAZARDOUS WASTE	SPRAY CANS	PAINT	WATER-BASED PAINT	OIL-BASED PAINT	FIREWORKS	OIL FILTERS
						
IMPREGNATED TIMBER	GAS BOTTLES	WASTE OIL	PHARMACEUTICALS	ASBESTOS	FIRE EXTINGUISHERS	

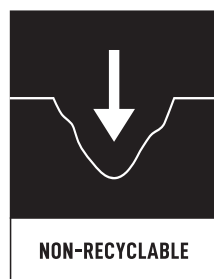
Overview – symbols for fractions

PLASTIC & RUBBER



Overview – symbols for fractions

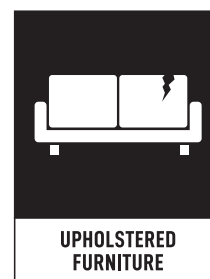
POST-SORTING REMAINS



Non-recyclable
corresponds to the
fraction that many today
call “landfill”.



Waste-to-energy
corresponds to the
fraction that many today
call “combustible”.



**Upholstered
furniture**
corresponds to the
fraction that many today
call “large combustible”.

Colour codes

GARDEN WASTE, ETC.



CMYK 80 0 90 50
PANTONE 349 C
RGB 0 100 50
HEX #006432
RAL 6001 (EMERALD GREEN)

COOKING OIL



CMYK 80 0 90 0
PANTONE 7482 C
RGB 0 160 75
HEX #00a04b
RAL 6037 (PURE GREEN)

REUSE



CMYK 55 0 90 0
PANTONE 7488 C
RGB 135 200 75
HEX #87c84b
RAL 6018 / YELLOW GREEN

GLASS



CMYK 75 0 55 0
PANTONE 2401 C
RGB 30 175 140
HEX #1daf8e
RAL 6027 (LIGHT GREEN)

PAPER



CMYK 95 35 5 0
PANTONE 2185 C
RGB 0 130 190
HEX #0082be
RAL 5015 (SKY BLUE)

CONSTRUCTION WASTE



CMYK 95 55 5 40
PANTONE 2187 C
RGB 0 75 130
HEX #004b82
RAL RAL 5010 (GENTIAN BLUE)

CARDBOARD



CMYK 25 35 65 5
PANTONE 7562 C
RGB 190 160 100
HEX #bea064
RAL 1024 (OCHRE YELLOW)

ELECTRONIC WASTE



CMYK 0 55 100 0
PANTONE 144 C
RGB 240 145 10
HEX #f0910a
RAL 2008 (BRIGHT RED ORANGE)

HAZARDOUS WASTE



CMYK 0 100 90 0
PANTONE 485 C
RGB 225 15 30
HEX #e10f1e
RAL 3020 (TRAFFIC RED)

PLASTIC



CMYK 50 95 0 0
PANTONE 7656 C
RGB 150 30 130
HEX #961e82
RAL 4008 (SIGNAL VIOLET)

METAL



CMYK 25 0 0 65
PANTONE 444 C
RGB 90 110 120
HEX #5a6e78
RAL 7031 (BLUE GREY)

RESIDUAL WASTE



CMYK 20 20 20 100
PANTONE BLACK 6 C
RGB 20 20 20
HEX #141414
RAL 9005 (JET BLACK)

Other languages

Below you will find the names of the fractions listed in Swedish and German.



Garden waste
Trädgårdsavfall
Gartenabfall



Invasive alien species
Invasiva arter
Invasiver gebietsfremder
Arten



Reuse
Återbruk
Wiederverwendung



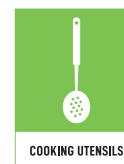
Fabric
Textil
Altkleider



Grass & leaves
Gräs och löv
Gras & Blätter



Windfalls
Fallfrukt
Fallobst



Cooking utensils
Husgeråd
Küchenutensilien



Damaged clothing
Trasig textil
Stoffreste & Lumpen



Soil
Jord
Erde



Latrine
Latrin
Latrine



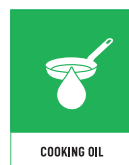
Furniture
Möbler
Möbel



Shoes
Skor
Schuhe



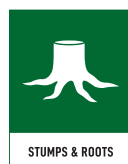
Twigs & branches
Ris & grenar
Äste & Zweige



Cooking oil
Matfett
Speiseöl & Fett



Repair
Reparation
Reparatur



Stumps & roots
Stubbar & rötter
Baumstämme &
Wurzeln



Sports & leisure
Sport & fritid
Sport & Freizeit

Other languages

Below you will find the names of the fractions listed in Swedish and German.



Coloured glass packaging

Färgade glasförpackningar
Gefärbte Glasverpackungen



Newspapers

Tidningar
Zeitungen



Windows

Fönster
Fenster



Clear glass packaging

Ofärgade glasförpackningar
Farblose Glasverpackungen



Cardboard

Wellpapp
Altpappe



Plaster

Gips
Gips



Books

Böcker
Bücher



Paper packaging

Pappersförpackningar
Speise- & Getränkekartons



Mineral wool

Isolering
Mineralwolle



Paper

Papper
Altpapier



Asphalt

Asfalt
Asphalt



Tiles

Kakel
Fliesen



Paper for shredding

Sekretesspapper
Aktenvernichtung



Concrete

Betong
Beton



Pallets

Lastpallar
Paletten

Other languages

Below you will find the names of the fractions listed in Swedish and German.



Painted wood
Målat trä
Gestrichenes Holz



Roofing felt
Takpapp
Dachpappe



Automotive batteries
Bilbatterier
Autobatterien



Flat glass
Planglas
Flachglas



Whole bricks
Tegel
Ganze Ziegelsteine



Fire alarms
Brandvarnare
Rauchmelder



Porcelain & china
Porslin & keramik
Porzellan



Wood
Trä
Holz



Printer cartridges
Färgpatroner
Druckerpatronen



Sanitary ware
Sanitet
Sanitärkeramik



Electronics
Elavfall
Elektrogeräte



Cables & wires
Kabel
Kabel & Leitungen



Stone & gravel
Sten & grus
Steine & Kies



Batteries
Batterier
Altbatterien



Refrigeration equipment
Kyl & frys
Kühlgeräte

Other languages

Below you will find the names of the fractions listed in Swedish and German.



Lithium batteries
Litiumbatterier
Lithium-Batterien



Light bulbs
Ljuskällor
Glühlampen & Lampen



Fluorescent tubes
Lysrör
Leuchtstoffröhren



Small electronics
Småelektronik
Kleinelektronik



Solar panels
Solpaneler
Solarmodule



TVs & monitors
TV & skärmar
Fernsehgeräte & Monitore



Major appliances
Vitvaror
Großelektronik



Hazardous waste
Farligt avfall
Sondermüll & Schadstoffe



Asbestos
Asbest
Asbest



Fire extinguishers
Brandsläckare
Feuerlöscher



Fireworks
Fyrverkerier
Feuerwerk



Paint
Färg
Farben



Oil-based paint
Lösningsmedelsbaserad färg
Farbe auf Lösungsmittelbasis



Water-based paint
Vattenbaserad färg
Farbe auf Wasserbasis



Gas bottles
Gasolflaskor
Gasflaschen

Other languages

Below you will find the names of the fractions listed in Swedish and German.



Impregnated timber

Impregnerat trä
Imprägniertes Holz



Pharmaceuticals

Mediciner
Medikamente



Oil filters

Oljefilter
Ölfilter



Waste oil

Spillolja
Altöl



Spray cans

Sprayflaskor
Spraydosen



Metal

Metall
Altmetall



Metal packaging

Metallförpackningar
Altmetallverpackungen



Tyres

Däck
Altreifen



Tyres with rims

Däck med fälg
Altreifen mit Felge



Styrofoam

Frigolit
Styropor



Hard PVC

Markrör
Hartes PVC



Plastic packaging

Plastförpackningar
Plastikverpackungen



Soft PVC

Mjuk PVC
Weiches PVC



Rigid plastic

Hårdplast
Hartplastik



Stretch wrap

Sträckfilm
Stretchfolie

Other languages

Below you will find the names of the fractions listed in Swedish and German.



Ashes

Aska

Asche



Upholstered furniture

Stoppade möbler

Polstermöbel



Non-recyclable

Ej återvinningsbart

Nicht wiederverwendbar



Waste-to-energy

Energiåtervinning

Energierückgewinnung

Application of the system

Basic instructions

The system is designed for the marking of waste containers and use on signs of different sizes.

The symbol can be scaled up and down to other sizes for use on signs, packaging, websites and promotional materials, as well as for wrapping waste collection vehicles.

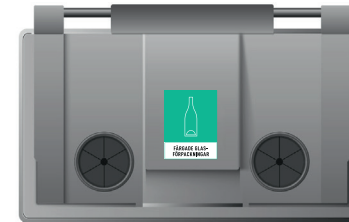
We advise against printing the symbols smaller than 20 mm in width to maintain readability. For a smaller print area, we recommend only using the symbol that is also available for download.

Original files

Original files in EPS format for printing and production of labelling materials are ordered from info@avfallsverige.se. Low-resolution files in PNG format for digital newsletters and the like can be downloaded from avfallsverige.se. NOTE that these cannot be used for print or sign production.

Specify whether you want a complete set of symbols or just a set for *Kerbside collection* or *Recycling centres*.

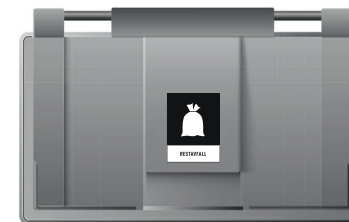
It is also possible to order a selection of symbols. You then take care of ordering the physical signs and other markings you produce.



Example: sign on lid
Clear glass packaging
(600 L). Width 180 mm.



Example: sign on lid
Paper (600 L).
Width 180 mm.



Example: sign on lid
Residual waste (600 L).
Width 180 mm.



Example: sign on front
Residual waste (600 L).
Collage, height 300 X (minimum) width 193 mm.



Example: sign on lid, multicompartment
Residual waste and Food waste.
Height 60 mm.



Example: sign on lid, multicompartment
Newspapers / Paper packaging / Plastic packaging
/ Metal packaging / Clear glass packaging
Height 60 mm.

Example: sign on back, multicompartment
Width 120 mm.



Example: sign on front, multicompartment
Width 60 mm.



Example: sign on back, multicompartment
Width 120 mm.



Example: sign on front, multicompartment
Width 60 mm.





Example: sign on lid
Residual waste (140 L).
Height 60 mm.



Example: sign on lid
Paper (140 L).
Height 60 mm.



Example: sign on lid
Other (140 L).
Width 120 mm.

Example: sign on front
Width minimum 160 mm.



Example: sign, collage on front
Width minimum 320 mm, height 320 mm.



Supplements in the form of logos and municipality name must always be positioned on rectangular supplemental fields outside of the basic symbol. The supplemental field can be positioned either on the right side (to create a square format) or under the symbol. With positioning under the symbol, the field can either be white with black and white logo and text or be in the same colour as the symbol, in which case the logo and text must always be in white. If the supplemental field is positioned on the right side, the field must be white with black and white logo. The logo is positioned in the bottom of the field with proportional free space around it. If, for example, you want to clarify what should be discarded in a container, you can add a supplemental field under the basic symbol or in the supplemental field on the right.

See the above example and page 28.

The system uses the font D-Din condensed bold, in capital letters (can be downloaded free of charge from <https://www.fontsquirrel.com/fonts/d-din>). If the organisation does not allow externally downloaded fonts, we recommend that other information is printed in Futura, a common font in computers, or in the user's (municipality's/company's) own font.

Headings have spacing 30. The font for fraction name contained in the original symbol must never be changed.

Adaptations, not available for download

A production artist can easily create a white symbol by editing the available EPS files. Observe the following rules and instructions when adapting the symbols:

Size and shape

The symbols consist of colour, icon and fraction name. The symbol can be adapted to other proportions. However, the icon must not be changed.

When designing signs, the square symbol principles must be maintained. Compiling more than two symbols on the same sign is not recommended. It is better to position the basic symbols next to each other in a row with the fraction name retained below the icon.

The border around the symbol and text plate should be the same colour as the symbol and adapted to the physical size of the sign. See the adjacent examples for suitable proportions. The line that divides symbols in a Lego-style sign must be white and preferably about 1/6 of the width of border. The beginning of the fraction name must be positioned at a distance from the text plate edge = 0.6 X the X-height of the text.

Fraction name

For each symbol, there is a fraction name that must not be changed. However, other information can be added, according to your own needs, such as examples of fractions that are included.

Font

For the symbols, there are fraction names in the font D-Din condensed bold, in capital letters (can be downloaded free of charge from <https://www.fontsquirrel.com/fonts/d-din>). For other information, we recommend the user's (municipality's/company's) own font or Futura, which is a common font in computers. Headings have spacing 30.

Colours

The colours of the symbols must not be altered or switched between different fractions. **NOTE!** Ready-to-use symbols, white icon on a black background, are available for download.



Example horizontal sign, 500 X 100 mm, with two fraction icons.



Example horizontal sign, 500 X 100 mm.



Example horizontal sign, 500 X 100 mm, with inverted text.



Example, adapted pictogram



Example sign, 1000 X 790 mm, with two fraction icons and placard section.



Example sign, 1200 X 790 mm.



Example sign, 1200 X 790 mm, with inverted text.



When designing signs, including when using a Lego-style system, the square symbol principles must be maintained.

0.6 X

The beginning of the fraction name must be positioned at a distance from the text plate edge = 0.6 X the X-height of the text.



The line that divides symbols in a Lego-style sign must be white and preferably about 1/6 of the width of border.

Positioning and print for increased availability

We want the new labelling system to suit as many as possible, regardless of conditions. In Sweden, about 100,000 citizens have a visual impairment. We also know that measures to support accessibility for the visually impaired create better conditions for all citizens. Here are some tips for increased accessibility at the collection point.

Increase clarity at the collection point

Make sure that the waste bins are returned to the same place after emptying.

Position signs and symbols in such a way that there is no risk of them being obscured by open lids or the like.

Colour coding of the entire lids of the waste bins is a good way to increase clarity at the collection point. Give the lids the same colour as the symbol for each fraction. Painting the wall or floor area around the bins the same colour is another way to increase clarity.

Printing and relief printing

Make sure there is high contrast between text and background.

Tactile printing in the form of raised ordinary letters, referred to as relief printing, helps a person with impaired vision to feel where the sorted items belong. The addition of Braille is desirable, but not everyone with visual impairment can read Braille, while the vast majority can read relief printing. Another advantage of relief printing is its resistance to damage and natural impact, which means it can be a good financial investment.

Feel free to contact Avfall Sverige if you have any questions about relief printing so we can investigate the possibility of coordinating this.

Standalone use of icons

Symbols without fraction name can be used in standalone form, for example as infographics on websites or on packaging.



File formats and colour systems

The symbols are available in EPS format and in colour systems adapted to different areas of use. Colour codes can be found on page 7 (Near-household collection) and page 18 (Recycling centres).

USE	FILE FORMAT	COLOUR SYSTEM
Labels for containers	EPS*	CMYK / Pantone
Relief for containers	EPS*	CMYK / Pantone
Printed materials e.g. brochures and flyers	EPS*	CMYK / Pantone / RAL
Web design and other screen use	PNG**	RGB**
Production of e.g. signs and coloured lids for waste bins	EPS*	RAL

* The EPS files are backward compatible with Adobe Illustrator CS4.

** Using original files in EPS format and colour codes for RGB in this manual, a graphic designer can produce PNG or JPG files for screen use and web design in larger sizes. Low-resolution PNG files are available at avfallsverige.se for overview and use in simpler digital newsletters and the like.

Note that JPG files must not be used for physical production of signs as the colours may be incorrect.

Frequently asked questions

Can we adapt the print files to our needs?

Yes, a designer or graphic designer can adapt the file formats as long as the adaptation guidelines are followed.

The symbol system is developed for use by all municipalities, waste companies and packaging producers, as long as the guidelines for adapting the files are followed.

We encourage everyone to follow the recommendations for sign posting and positioning on waste bins.

What does it cost?

Using low-resolution files and originals for printing is free of charge for municipalities, municipal companies, packaging producers and other users. However, you are responsible for all production and communication costs.

When should we choose to use relief printing?

In Sweden, about 100,000 citizens have a visual impairment. Relief printing helps the visually impaired feel where their sorted items belong. Braille, on the other hand, is something that relatively few know and need. This fact emerged during discussions and tests with representatives of the visually impaired.

Another advantage of relief printing is that it is more resistant to damage and natural impact, so it can be a good financial investment as well.

May I change the name of a fraction to suit our current naming system?

No. Each symbol has its specific fraction name that may not be changed. The design process also included extensive terminology work, where industry representatives and users reconciled various considerations to find the best name for each fraction and associated symbol. The fraction names are chosen to align with not only the symbol system but also the fraction names across the country with the aim of facilitating increased recycling. The hope is that, over time, the new names will take root and become the obvious choice at recycling centres as well as in households and in the city.

Can we combine symbols and text from different symbols?

No, you may not mix icons and fraction names. If you have specific wishes about the symbol system and fraction names, please contact Avfall Sverige.

A fraction we use is not included. What should we do?

That is great news! It probably means that you are good at sorting! If you need a new symbol, please contact Avfall Sverige. We may be working to develop that symbol right now. If there are several who share your need, the development costs can be split among multiple users.

Can we change the colours?

No, the colours must not be changed. The system is designed in colour categories according to common properties. See page 28 for permitted adaptations.

Can I use the symbols without colour?

Yes. All symbols can be used as a white symbol against a black or coloured background or a black/fraction colour against a white background. See page 28 for permitted adaptations. A production artist can easily create a white symbol by editing the available EPS files.

Some symbols look different in our neighbouring country.**What should we choose for our organisation?**

The system is designed in collaboration between several countries, and the differences are as few and as small as possible. On the whole, waste sorting works the same way in different countries, but there are some differences due to other sorting requirements and organisation. The Swedish system is designed based on Swedish conditions and is what you should use.

Will the system change in the future?

The goal is for the symbols to look the same over time, through coordination at the Nordic level. At the same time, it is not a static system. It will evolve over time according to user needs. More symbols will be added as new needs arise and more fractions are to be sorted separately.

If you have specific wishes about the symbol system and fraction names, you are welcome to contact Avfall Sverige.

How was the system developed?

The symbols are based on an award-winning design developed and implemented by the Danish Waste Association that in a short time was implemented by over 90% of Danish municipalities. In 2020, Avfall Sverige tested the symbols in citizen panels, conducted testing in the city, in refuse rooms and at recycling centres, and discussed them with experts in various accessibility aspects. The symbols were then adapted to Swedish conditions and requirements.

Contact

Would you like to learn more about the system?

Contact Natalie Svensson, info@avfallsverige.se.

Implementation and design

Hire a graphic designer or production company you normally work with or you have a framework agreement with to help produce materials for your use. Costs for work and productions related to this are borne by your own organisation.