



The Association of Plastic Recyclers

Model Bale Specifications: HDPE Injection Bulky Rigid Plastics

This model is not meant to replace the specifications of individual buyers, many of whom may have different allowables' in terms of contents and bale sizes. Rather, it is meant to provide a benchmark to suppliers.

Any injection grade #2 HDPE, typically found to be wide mouthed containers and/or oversized items generated through a positive sort from curbside, drop-off or other public or private recycling collection program. Examples include: carts, crates, buckets, baskets, lawn furniture, etc. Metal such as axels and bolts should be removed. Buckets/pails with metal handles are acceptable.

ACCEPTABLE LEVELS OF CONTAMINANTS:

- Polypropylene (10% maximum acceptable)
- Additional plastic resins: #1 PET, #3 PVC, #4 LDPE, #6 PS, #7 Other (4% maximum allowable)
- Metal (2% maximum acceptable)
- Liquid/other residues (2% max. acceptable) • Paper/cardboard (2% maximum acceptable)

THE FOLLOWING CONTAMINANTS ARE NOT ALLOWED AT ANY LEVEL:

- Any plastic bags, sheets, or film
- Oils, grease, rocks, mud, dirt
- Medical and hazardous waste
- Containers which held flammable, corrosive or reactive products, pesticides or herbicides.
- Wood, glass, electronics scrap
- Items with circuit boards or battery packs
- Products with degradable additives

IMPORTANT: Any plastic container that previously contained any hazardous or potentially hazardous material should be strictly avoided. Many purchasers will reject an entire load if any of the above materials are found and will return them at the supplier's expense.

Bale Size/Minimum Shipping Weight: Approximately 30"x42"x 48" or 30"x48"x 60". Bale sizes should allow a minimum of 35,000 pounds to be shipped on 48 foot trailer, which is an industry standard. Individual companies may apply price deductions for shipments that do not meet their minimum weight requirements.

Bale Density: 15-20 lbs. /ft³

Bale Wire: Bales should be held together with 10-12 gauge, noncorrosive galvanized metal wire, with all bale wires wrapped in one direction (crisscrossing or double strapping should be preapproved by the buyer before shipping). A minimum number of bale wires should be used to maintain bale integrity. This number will vary with bale size and density.

Bale Tare Weight: A tare weight of 8 pounds per bale will be taken from the gross weight.

Bale Integrity: Bale integrity must be maintained throughout loading, shipping, unloading and storage.

Storage: Bales should be stored, with the bottom bale on a pallet, indoors or covered outdoors. Material must not be stored outdoors uncovered for a period exceeding four (4) weeks to prevent UV degradation from direct sunlight and moisture contamination.