

RCBC



Guide to Post-Holiday Gift Packaging & Wrapping



01 | WRAPPING

Recycle

- Wrapping paper without foil or sparkles can be included in mixed paper recycling, both in curbside programs and at many recycling depots.
- Cardboard boxes made of 100% paper can be recycled, or if they're still in good shape, reused for storage or for gift wrapping.

Reuse

- Ribbons and bows are fun and festive, but cannot be recycled. Keep them out of the landfill by keeping them to reuse next year! Bows lost their stick? A loop of clear tape on the back will make them good as new!
- Gift bags can be reused over and over - just skip writing a name on the tag, or remove it if it's already used!



02 | PACKAGING

Recycle at Depots Only

- Many common packaging materials can be recycled for free at depot locations participating in the **Recycle BC** program:
 - Flexible plastics**, like the stand up pouches used for coffee and candy
 - Styrofoam from around electronics and other items
 - Glass jars, like those used for jam and preserves

Recycle Curbside and at Depots

- Rigid plastic, like toy and tool packaging
- Cardboard boxes
- Metal cans and tins
- 100% Paper wrapping



03 | RECOMMENDATIONS

Reusable Wrapping

- Instead of a traditional gift bag, choose reusable cloth or canvas bags that can be reused for groceries and other shopping.
- Tea towels and scarves in fun colours or with festive prints make a great alternative to traditional wrapping paper, and can be a gift in and of themselves!

Minimal Packaging

- Look for products with minimal packaging.
- When packaging can't be avoided, choose products with easy to recycle packaging made of materials like plain paper, cardboard, and metal.
- When possible, shop in-person to avoid excess shipping waste.



Looking to skip the packaging and wrapping altogether? Check out our Holiday Gifting Guide: Experiences



RECYCLING COUNCIL
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

What to learn more about green wrapping options, or how to choose products with minimal and recyclable packaging? Visit www.rcbc.ca or call 604-732-9253 (Lower Mainland) or 1-800-667-4321 (Toll Free)