

# BYO Containers in Food Businesses

Many people want to reduce packaging waste by using their own containers when buying food. The most common example of a bring-your-own (BYO) container is a reusable cup for a takeaway coffee.

## The law

In the ACT, the *Food Act 2001* and the Food Standards Code allow for the use of BYO containers. There are a few things that customers and businesses should consider.

## For customers

- Make sure your container is clean and has a tight-fitting lid.
- Note that a business is not obligated to accept your container – it's a decision for the business to make.

## For businesses

- A food business does not have to accept BYO containers. It is up to each business to decide their policy on BYO containers.
- If a customer provides a dirty container, you can choose to clean it before use or refuse to use it.

## More information

- Contact the Health Protection Service by calling 5124 9700 during business hours or email [hps@act.gov.au](mailto:hps@act.gov.au).

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