

Frequently asked questions



WHAT ARE #IMNOTPLASTICCO PRODUCTS MADE OUT OF?

- Our products are made out of polylactic acid (PLA).

WHAT IS PLA?

PLA is an organic compound made from dextrose (sugar). In our case which is derived from corn, which is a natural and renewable resource.

IS PLA HARMFUL?

No, it is made from plants so it's BPA, chemical and toxin free.

WHAT CERTIFICATION DO YOU HAVE?

- Our products are certified as meeting bioplastics industrial standards EN13432 & ASTM D6400 (EN13432 certified products must biodegrade by at least 90% in 90 days in a composting system to meet the criteria).
- FDA registration.

BENEFITS OF USING #IMNOTPLASTICCO PRODUCTS

- Plant based, derived from corn starch (and not petroleum based like conventional plastics and oxo-plastics).
- Functionality, durability and appearance of conventional plastic.
- More hygienic than using reusable glass, bamboo or metal straws which are difficult to clean / sterilise.
- Competitively priced; in most cases cheaper than paper straws.
- Attractive appearance.
- Reduction of fossil fuel usage relative to fossil-based equivalents.
- Reduction of carbon footprint relative to fossil-based equivalents.
- Reduction of global warming potential relative to fossil-based equivalents.
- Certified 100% compostable in commercial composting systems.
- #IMNOTPLASTICCO hashtag helps spread awareness.

DISPOSING OF #IMNOTPLASTICCO PRODUCTS

Composting:

- o Commercial composting ensures the fastest composting time as their systems are able to create ideal composting conditions.
- o There are around 150 Industrial Composting and Organics Recycling facilities in Australia. Some councils provide composting facilities through their kerbside waste collections either through green organics and garden waste bin or through a dedicated organic recycling service. There is also many independent composting companies in Australia that will come to your house, cafe, bar or school etc weekly to pick up your organic waste such as food, organic packaging, cutlery and straws.
- o For information on Industrial Composting and Organics Recycling facilities contact your local council or the Australian Organics Recycling Association to find the nearest facility.

General waste:

- o Waste management varies from council to council, state to state. We recommend getting in touch with your local council waste management team to discuss their waste management methods. If our products end up in landfill they will still biodegrade, however it is difficult to accurately estimate the time frame as it depends on the conditions; heat, microbial activity, moisture, time etc. Our manufacturer states that as a guideline it would take approximately two years. This is a significant reduction in time compared to conventional plastics. Please appreciate that this is a guideline only, as it varies on a case by case basis dependent on conditions.

WHERE ARE #IMNOTPLASTICCO PRODUCTS MADE?

- #IMNOTPLASTICCO products are made by our reputable, accredited manufacturer in Shanghai, China. Our manufacturer also supplies bioplastic products to large companies in Asia, United Kingdom, USA and Canada.
- Our manufacturer's products have been certified against bioplastics industrial standards EN13432 & ASTM D6400. We have verified their registration / certificates.

WHERE DO #IMNOTPLASTICCO SUPPLY THEIR PRODUCTS?

- #IMNOTPLASTICCO is proudly Perth based and offer our products for sale Australia-wide.
- Our products can be made available to international customers on request, please email us at sales@imnotplasticco.com.au

HOW DOES #IMNOTPLASTICCO GIVE BACK?

- 5% of #IMNOTPLASTICCO profits are donated to ocean / environmental conservation groups.
- Our straws are sealed in PLA bags to ensure they keep food safe, they can also be disposed of in the same manner as our straws.
- Our products are packed in plain/recycled boxes so they can be re-used.
- Where possible we use a carbon neutral freight company to deliver our orders.

DISTRIBUTOR ENQUIRIES

- Please contact us via email at sales@imnotplasticco.com.au

DOING YOUR OWN RESEARCH

- We encourage our clients and prospective clients to do their own research on bioplastics to determine suitability for their business and to plan their disposal method of our products, however we highly recommend that you review only factual, scholarly information, studies and journal articles instead of subjective opinion pieces.

References / Further Information:

Australasian Bioplastics Association: <https://www.bioplastics.org.au/>

Plastics Industry Association: <http://plasticsindustry.org/advocacy/bioplastics>

Australian Organics Recycling Association: <https://www.aora.org.au/>

<https://www.aora.org.au/compost-for-soils/>