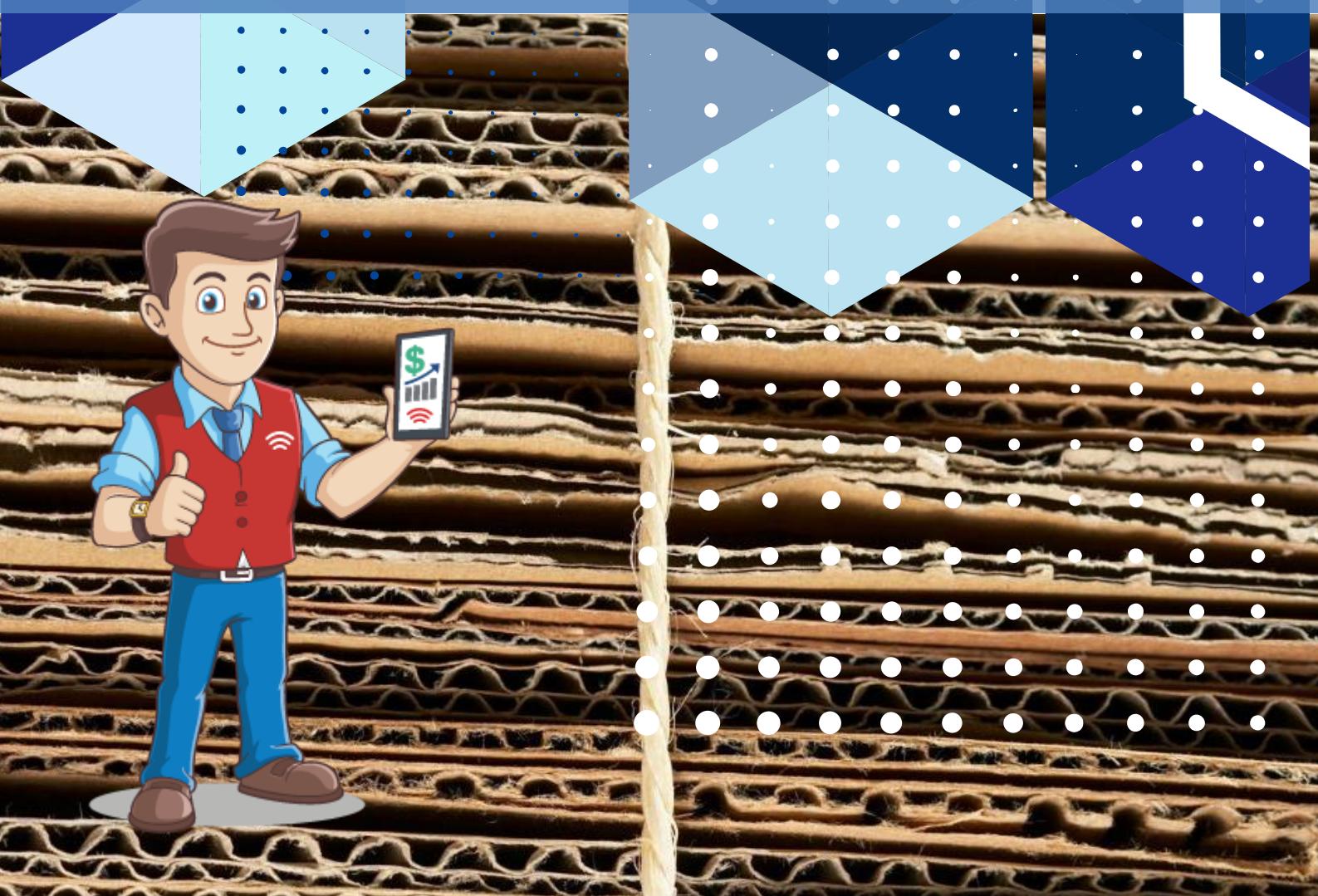


# Cardboard Recycling

*Free Business Owners Guide To Arranging Cardboard Recycling Services*



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# Dear Business Owner

Choosing a cardboard recycling company isn't easy because you're bombarded with misleading advertising, confusing claims, and simply bad information.

From super-low prices and high-pressure sales to unlicensed operators and hidden fees, how do you ever find a qualified, competent, and trustworthy cardboard recycling company?

You start by reading this Consumer's Guide. In this fact-filled booklet, you'll discover how to avoid cardboard recycling rip-offs, six mistakes to avoid when choosing a supplier, and also guidance on whether a cardboard bin service bin is actually right for your business!



We wrote this guide to help you better understand cardboard bin collection services. Now, with this information, you can make an informed, intelligent decision.

If you have any questions about cardboard bins or any other waste or recycling service please reach out to us.

You're invited to call us at 1300 927 837 or at [info@waster.com.au](mailto:info@waster.com.au). We've dedicated our business to educating consumers, we'll be happy to help you in every way.

Cordially,  
Mr Waster



#### About Waster.com.au

Waster is an Australian waste and recycling company specialised in helping small and medium companies.

We provide all waste and recycling services such as medical waste, general waste bins and all recycling options.

We are different to other suppliers as we operate on flexible 30 day agreements – so you are never locked in to a contract that does not suit you. We also specialise in reducing your costs by boosting recycling. You can email us at [info@waster.com.au](mailto:info@waster.com.au).

## How to avoid 4 cardboard recycling rip-offs!

**RIP-OFF #1: DISPOSING OF CARDBOARD IN GENERAL WASTE OR COMMINGLED** Cardboard recycling is the most economical waste and recycling service. It is usually significantly cheaper than putting cardboard in your general waste or commingled recycling bin.

**RIP-OFF #2: PAYING BIN RENTAL.** Some companies will charge you rental for your bin. There is really no need if the service is on an agreed schedule.

**RIP-OFF #3: OVER SERVICING.** How often do you really need your bin serviced. You should ensure the bin is only picked up at the frequency you require – whether it is daily or monthly.

**RIP-OFF #4: HIDDEN COSTS OR PRICE INCREASES** If you sign a multi year contract for cardboard bin services you may find yourself caught out by increasing prices or gradual increases that soon add up. Be careful with the small print in any long term contract that you consider signing.

## 6 costly misconceptions about cardboard recycling

### MISCONCEPTION #1: Cardboard recycling is free

Not usually. For large volumes of cardboard (baled or compacted), rebates can cancel out the collection fee – otherwise there will be a low cost bin service. The cost of cardboard has been dropping in international recycling markets.

### MISCONCEPTION #2: It is smarter to use a commingled recycling bin

No. A straight cardboard and paper bin will be the cheapest option in nearly all scenarios. If you have a small volume of bottles and cans etc – a smaller commingle bin may help you reduce general waste.

### MISCONCEPTION #3: I can dispose of confidential papers in my cardboard bin.

No. This is a risky pursuit for private or confidential information. A cardboard bin service is not secure – and the contents will not be shredded or otherwise destroyed. A confidential paper service is more suitable.

### MISCONCEPTION #4: I can throw some general waste in a cardboard bin.

No. If a driver finds that there is general waste in your cardboard and paper bin – it may be classified as contaminated and need to be collected by a general waste truck – at a much higher price.



### Why is cardboard recycling good for the environment

*According to Planet Ark -more than 80% of Australia's paper and cardboard packaging is made from recycled fibre. The lowest grade of recycled paper goes into cardboard products.*

*Cardboard is one of the easiest and most environmentally effective materials to recycle since the fibre in cardboard has already been processed.*

*Therefore making cardboard products from recycled material, rather than virgin fibre, saves not only trees, but also large amounts of water (up to 99% less) and energy (up to 50% less).*

*Manufacturing from recycled material also produces up to 90% less by products such as chemical wastes."*



#### **MISCONCEPTION #5:A baler or compactor is too expensive for my business.**

Maybe not. There are lots of grants available from State Governments for recycling equipment. Depending on the quantity of cardboard you produce – you may actually save money over the life of the machine due to rebates payable.

#### **MISCONCEPTION #6: I do not need a lock for my cardboard bin**

In some cases – it is best to have a lock on the bin. Whereas you will not be charged extra for a heavy bin, a lock may still be a smart case. If the bin is in a busy area – with lots of pedestrians – a lock will prevent people dumping rubbish in your bin (and risking contamination).

**Cardboard can be recycled along with paper and is remade into many different kinds of paper products. Recycled cardboard can also be made into sound-proofing material, insulation and even furniture.**

**Every time paper is processed the individual fibres become weaker, limiting the number of times it can be recycled – usually up to eight times.**

**Paper that has been recycled as many times as the fibres will allow is turned into compost and breaks down naturally**



# 5 questions to ask when choosing a cardboard recycling provider

## **Value versus price**

*We are not going to dress it up and make it look like a luxury product – cardboard recycling bins are one of those necessary evils in life like paying your taxes. The smart decision is to know some simple facts and choose a reputable provider so you avoid any long term issues.*

*Minimising any impact to your business operations is vital. Thus regular servicing will ensure:*

- Saving money on general waste
- Strong environmental performance
- Simplify systems and processes in your office

## **Cheapest in the long run**

*A good quality service will be the cheapest option in the long run for your business and will save you money.*

*A good supplier should ensure – no hidden extras, no extra call out fees and prices that stay reasonable stable year after year.*

**We have covered what to avoid and common misconceptions** but what are the questions you should ask a cardboard recycling company before hiring them?

## **QUESTION #1: Can you provide pricing now?**

•A reputable company should be able to provide pretty accurate pricing on the phone or in person – i.e. based on number of bins, access and frequency. They should not really need to do a site inspection or come to visit you to provide a “free quote”. There will be some caveats such as access and height restrictions.

## **QUESTION #2: Do I need to sign a long term contract?**

•Many companies will want you to sign a long term – and sometimes multi year contract for them to start providing bin services. Think – is there any real benefit to you; the customer in this context. As a bin company does not have to provide any expensive equipment etc to you – there should really be no need for a long term contract.

## **QUESTION #3: Do I get charged by weight in the bin?**

•As cardboard is a valuable commodity (which the collecting company will receive a rebate for) – you should not be charged extra for weight in the bin. They may however charge extra if cardboard is on the floor etc or requires the driver to pickup etc.

## **QUESTION #4: Are you properly licensed?**

•This is vital – if the supplier is not licensed, then you really are risking your business. The company should be able to describe their operations and facilities – and provide evidence of certification etc.

## **QUESTION #5: Can I get a discount if I book other services?**

•Yes. Of course you should ask for a better price and also a discount if you book other services such as general waste bins.

## What does the cardboard recycling process actually involve?

Cardboard recycling is a well established recycling service due to the international trade in recycled cardboard. The website – [www.conserve-energy-future.com](http://www.conserve-energy-future.com) gives a good step by step overview of the recycling process – which we cover below.

The first stage in the process is sorting once it has been left at the facility.

*"In most cases, they are classified into corrugated cardboard and boxboard. Boxboards are the ones that are thin such as those used for cardboard drink containers or cereals boxes while corrugated boxes are bigger and stiffer commonly used for packaging transport goods. Sorting is important since paper mills manufacture different grades of materials based on the materials being recovered."*

The next step is shredding and pulping :

*"shredding is done to break down the cardboard paper fibres into minute pieces. Once the material is finely shredded into pieces, it is mixed with water and chemicals to breakdown the paper fibres that turn it into a slurry substance."*

This process is what is termed as pulping. The pulped material is then blended with new pulp, generally from wood chips that ultimately help the resulting substance to solidify and become firmer."

After this stage – the product goes through a filtering and cleansing process to remove impurities and inks etc.

The pulp can then be blended with new cardboard at this stage. *"As the pulp dries, it is passed through an automated machine that press out excess water and facilitates the formation of a long rolls of solid sheet from the fibres called linerboards and mediums. The linerboards are glued together, layer by layer to make a new piece of cardboard."*

And then the entire process will begin again!



When you run a business – being locked into an unsuitable multi year contract is the last thing you need. Waster operates on flexible 30 day agreements – which basically means that if you are not happy with our service, or it just does not suit you anymore – you can cancel by giving us 30 days written notice.

Waster provides low cost waste and recycling services to small and medium Australian businesses.

You can book all your required services such as grease trap cleaning, general waste bins, recycling bins and all niche services such as sanitary bins and confidential document destruction.

*Check out all your options at [waster.com.au](http://waster.com.au)*



*Waster operates on 30 day agreements – so you are never tied to a long term contract*