

# Plastic straws



The Last Plastic Straw is a project of the Plastic Pollution Coalition.

Did you know? Over 500 million plastic straws are used each day in the United States. In only the past twenty years, people have come to expect plastic straws in every drink, in an example of extreme waste being generated for minimal convenience. These short-lived tools are usually dropped into a garbage can with no further thought, instantly becoming a source of plastic pollution.

<https://www.plasticpollutioncoalition.org/no-straw-please/>

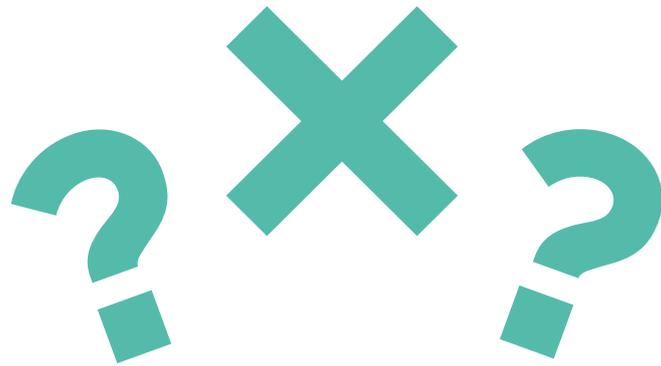


At the moment, most of the paper straws used in this country are made in China, which obviously isn't great for the carbon footprint. In the UK alone, on average 3.5 million McDonald's customers per day buy a drink with a straw. That means 3.5 million straws a day are discarded just by McDonald's customers. McDonalds signs deal for all UK restaurants to supply paper straws.

London's first paper straw factory has been hailed as a "huge step forward" in the war against single-use plastic has opened for business. It produces biodegradable straws on a specialist machine in its Walthamstow factory. Paper Straws London is one of the first straw making factories in Europe. The paper, glue and ink are all sourced from the UK and Europe, and come in boxes made of recycled card, and cost £3.20 for 250 straws. Paper Straws London hopes to produce one million straws every week to supply London bars, cafés and restaurants. According to Greenpeace, plastic straws are one of the top 10 items found in beach clean ups.

"The plastic ban is imminent," Michael Gove announced on October 22, 2018.

"Following the BBC's Blue Planet series, many businesses are already looking to replace plastic straws with paper ones." Wholesale Manager Feb 2019



**Targeting plastic  
items can damage a  
country's economy and  
people.**