

A guide to

CHRISTMAS

WASTE



Did you know, a staggering 227,000 miles of wrapping paper is used annually in the UK, according to data from GWP Group.

At Grundon, we see an astonishing amount of wrapping paper and other festive materials arriving at our facilities around the Christmas season.

To help you recycle responsibly, here's our guide to choosing the right bin for your festive waste.

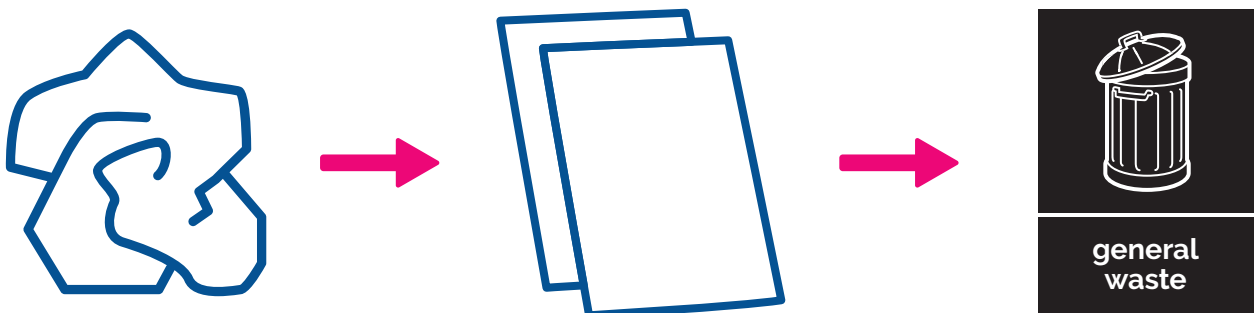


The

SCRUNCH TEST

The average household uses about four rolls of wrapping paper per year (GWP.co.uk, 2024). To see if the paper is recyclable, our advice is to carry out the scrunch test. Scrunch the paper into a ball and if it stays scrunched, it's usually recyclable. If it bounces back, it's likely to be lined with plastic, which means it should be placed in your general waste bin as it cannot be recycled.

Don't forget to remove sticky tape from any paper or cardboard before disposing of it in your recycling bin.



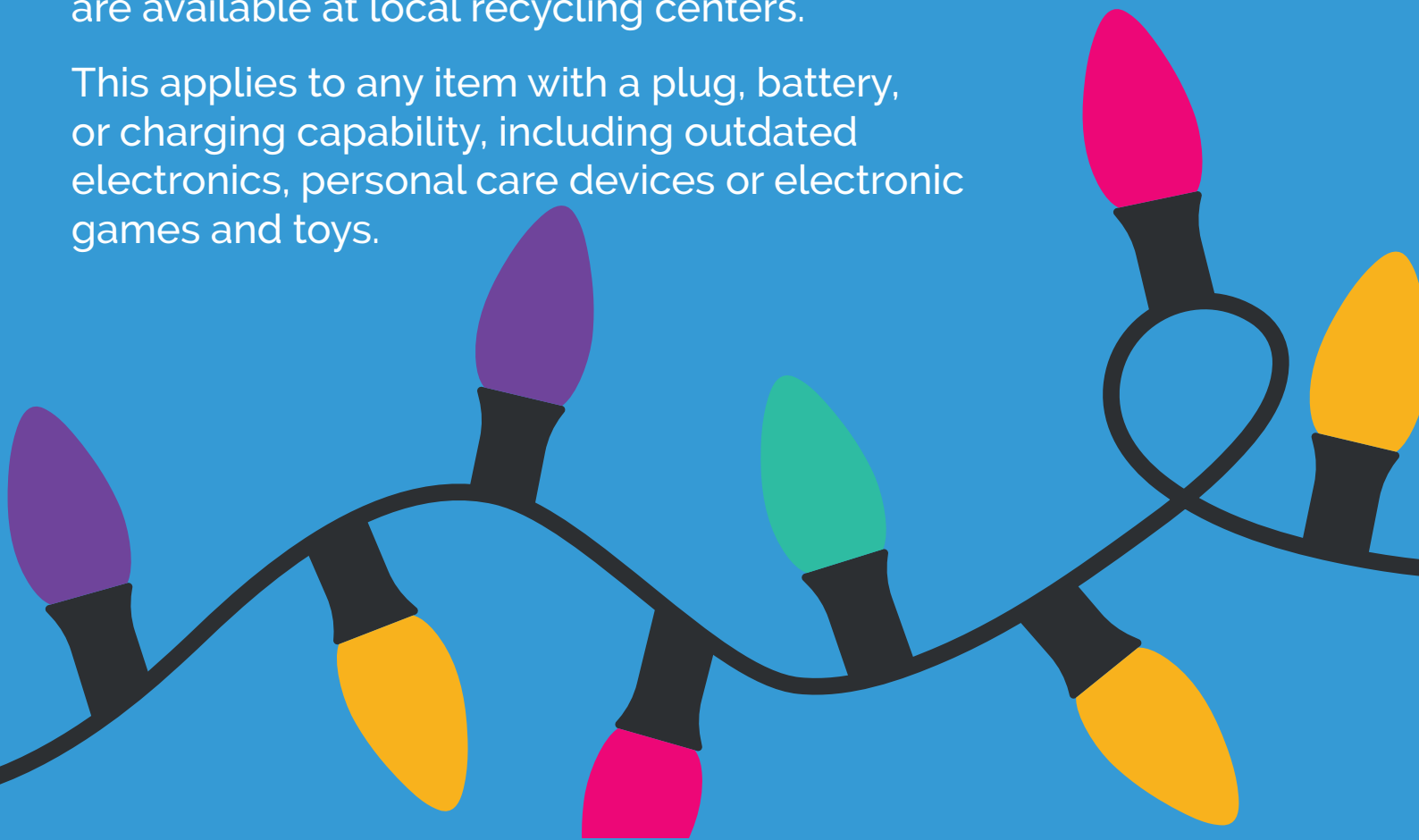
Turn out the LIGHTS

We all love lighting up the season with Christmas lights, but when they stop working or you no longer need them, they shouldn't be placed in your regular recycling bin. Instead, they must be disposed of as electronic waste to ensure valuable materials like copper, plastic and glass are properly separated and recycled.

For businesses, all lights should be discarded through a certified Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) service. This guarantees the correct recycling of materials and compliance with environmental regulations.

For households, designated drop-off points for electronic waste are available at local recycling centers.

This applies to any item with a plug, battery, or charging capability, including outdated electronics, personal care devices or electronic games and toys.



What about

GLITTER!

Whilst glitter might make your cards and decor twinkle, unfortunately anything that is foil or glitter-decorated can't be recycled.

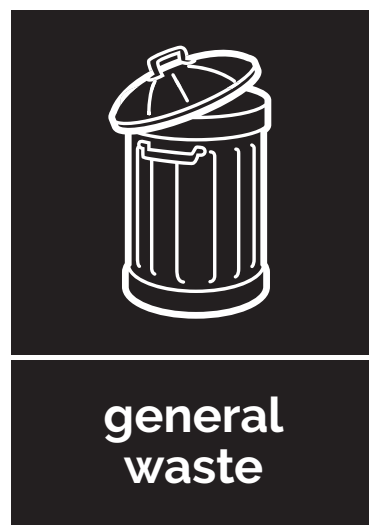
A typical person in the UK is likely to dispose of 24 greeting cards after Christmas, but they don't always have to be disposed of as general waste. Christmas cards free of glitter and metallic parts can often be recycled, spreading more cheer by generating less waste. It's also important to remember to remove any extras such as gems, bows or ribbons.



Think about

PACKAGING

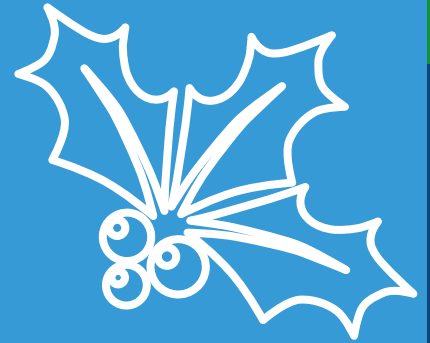
Internal packaging materials, like polystyrene or bubble wrap, fall on the naughty list when it comes to recycling. These materials are made of types of plastic that most Materials Recovery Facilities are not equipped to handle. This means they should be placed in the general waste bin or even better, hold on to them for future gift-giving.



Cardboard boxes, plain paper packaging, and even the little card insert rolls from our wrapping paper are all good to go in your mixed recycling.

If there's ever anything you're unsure of how to dispose of, check with your waste management provider or local council to find out.





**LET'S
CELEBRATE THIS
SEASON, BUT NOT
AT THE PLANET'S
EXPENSE**