

Dentist Practices Paper Cup

Table of materials

Plastic cups made (PP)

- Made from non-renewable resources.
- Do not degrade.
- Light to transport and move
- Widespread recycling plants across the country and well developed recycling technology.
- Do not present problems during storage and incineration (as with special wastes).
- Cost-effective.

Paper cups

- Made mainly from renewable raw materials.
- Have a plastic layer limiting their recyclability and/or composting.
- Heavier than plastic cups impacting on storage and on CO² emissions during transport.
- Required to be sourced from sustainably managed forests to prevent deforestation.
- High CO² production during processing when transporting the raw materials to the processing site.
- Substantial use of water in the production process (almost twice than for PP).
- More costly than PP cups.

Bio-plastic cups (PLA)

- Made solely from renewable raw materials.
- Can be compostable depending on standard.
- Composting plants are less widespread.
- Pollute the environment during raw material extraction.
- Areas where corn or sugar cane are cultivated compete with areas dedicated to food production.
- Relatively cost-effective.

Re-usable cups

- Made from finite raw materials.
- Contribute to reduction in waste products.
- Easy to recycle depending on the material (PP, glass).
- Provide environmental benefits only after a certain frequency of use.
- Require a specific health management process.
- Relatively cost-effective.

