

Trade Information Sheet

Labourer/Bricklayer

REDUCE



- The amount of waste you produce
- Get the trades to finish mixed materials – cement, plaster, and adhesives
- Never throw away insulation

REUSE



- Materials instead of purchasing new ones
- Send back pallets – they can be reused

RECYCLE



- Use dumpy bags to segregate waste – they can be reused
- Recycle as much as you can

You should be aware of different waste types – if you do not know what something is, then ask.

Sorting your waste

GENERAL

Timber, plastic, packaging, insulation, empty tins, tubes metal, food and carpets

INERT

Set concrete, bricks, asphalt, tiles, slate, sand, gravel and sub-soil

HAZARDOUS

Fuel, asbestos, batteries, solvent - based products (e.g. mastics, glues, cement additives and paints), waste containing PCBs (e.g. some resin based flooring, sealants and sealed glazing units)



You **MUST** separate hazardous waste from general waste - make sure you are aware of any materials you use which are hazardous, and segregate them

General things you can do to make a difference:

- Minimise the amount of water you use and take water from rainwater butts on site where possible
- Make sure no washout water from vans or mixers goes into road drains
- Damp down dust with water when sweeping up - it helps the local environment

Did you know?

Construction generates **3 tonnes** of waste for every person in the country and produces **24%** of all waste arising - **13 million tonnes** are unused building products

The value of a skip - labour, skip cost and materials is over **£1,400**

The energy needed to make one brick is enough to brew **2 pints of beer**

Every year the construction industry throws away **2 million bricks**

The equivalent energy could have been used to make **4 million pints!**

Make sure you pack skips well - an average skip contains **70% air!**

Trade Information Sheet

Plasterer

REDUCE



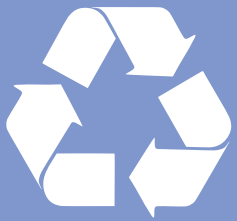
- The amount of waste you produce (e.g. store your materials carefully as so not to spoil them by damage or impact from moisture, and don't over order)
- Don't make careless mistakes. Re-doing work uses more materials and is wasteful

REUSE



- Materials instead of purchasing new ones (e.g. reusing off cuts on other jobs, work out a suitable way to reuse off cuts)

RECYCLE



- Recycle as much as you can

Plaster waste is banned from normal landfills due to issues with hydrogen sulphide at sites caused by the breakdown of plaster and plaster board when it biodegrades. This must either be recycled or sent to a special landfill site that does not accept biodegradable waste.

Sorting your waste

PLASTER

Plasterboard, plaster

GENERAL

Timber, plastic, packaging, insulation, empty tins/tubes, dry water based glues and glass

INERT

Bricks, blocks, set concrete and mortar, asphalt, ceramics, tiles and gravel

HAZARDOUS

Batteries, waste containing PCBs (e.g. resin based flooring sealants), additives and waterproofing products, sealants, paints and varnishes, solvent-based products mastics and glues



Do **NOT** pour anything hazardous or that could cause a blockage down house drains



Do **NOT** pour anything except clean water down road drains



Ensure plaster washings **DO NOT** contaminate ground water

Did you know?

Around **200 million** m² of plasterboard and 60 million bags of plaster are used each year in the UK

It is estimated that **one million tonnes** of plasterboard waste is generated from construction and demolition activities every year

Make sure you pack skips well - an average skip contains **70% air!**

Trade Information Sheet

Plumber

REDUCE



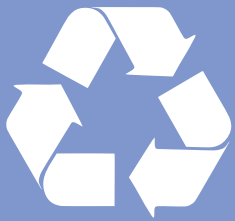
- The amount of waste you produce (e.g. store your materials carefully as so not to spoil, bad storage can be wasteful. Keep stores secure, dry and organised)
- Don't make careless mistakes
- Re-doing work uses more materials and is wasteful
- Damaged work is wasteful; protect completed work so it is not damaged by others

REUSE



- Materials instead of purchasing new ones (e.g. re-use old copper pipes which are in good condition)

RECYCLE



- As much as you can, sorting your waste on site

Make sure customers know how best to use what you have installed. Leave manuals and clear maintenance instructions.

Sorting your waste

METAL	INERT	HAZARDOUS	GENERAL
All ferrous and non – ferrous metal e.g. copper pipes, radiators, boilers, tanks	Bricks, set concrete, asphalt, ceramics, sand, gravel	Batteries, oil and oily rags, waste electrical and electronic equipment, paints and varnishes, solvent-based glues and paints, chemicals, sealants	Timber, plastic, packaging, paper, cardboard, empty tins/ tubes that contained water based (non-hazardous) glues and paints - dry

General

You must separate hazardous waste from general waste – make sure you are aware of any materials you use which are hazardous, and segregate them.

DO NOT

- Pour anything hazardous or that could cause a blockage down house drains
- Pour anything except clean water down road drains
- Flush systems into surface water drains



You **MUST** separate hazardous waste from general waste – make sure you are aware of any materials you use which are hazardous, and segregate them

Did you know?

The value of a skip - labour,
skip cost and materials is over
£1,400

Make sure you pack skips well - an
average skip contains
70% air!

Trade Information Sheet

Electrician

REDUCE



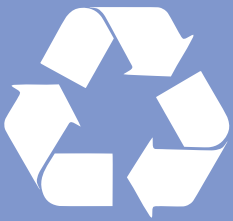
- The amount of waste you produce (e.g. store your materials carefully so as not to spoil them and don't over order)

REUSE



- Materials instead of purchasing new ones (e.g. use surplus materials on your next plot or project, repair items wherever suitable)

RECYCLE



- Recycle as much as you can

Sorting your waste

METAL

All ferrous and non-ferrous metal e.g. copper pipes, radiators, boilers, tanks

GENERAL

Timber, plastic, packaging, insulation, empty tins/tubes (non-hazardous), dry water based glues and glass

INERT

Set concrete and mortar, ceramics and tiles, slate

HAZARDOUS

Solvent based, lead and fire retardant paints and sprays, sealants, some border adhesives, two part fillers, solvent based paint remover, all liquids, batteries, electronics and electrical equipment, fluorescent tubes



DON'T throw your power tools in the bin when you replace them – ask your manager where to place WEE waste

Did you know?

Over **190,000 tonnes** of cabling, wiring and lighting are used each year in the construction industry.

Of this, **39,000 tonnes (20%)** are wasted annually. Cable can be recycled, the copper is extracted and the plastic is used in traffic cones and piping

Fluorescent lighting is more energy efficient than incandescent light bulbs, lasting eight to ten times longer and using 75-80% less energy. But we discard **100 million fluorescent tubes** every year which are hazardous and need to be disposed of accordingly

Trade Information Sheet

Decorator

REDUCE



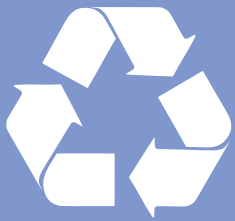
- The amount of waste you produce (e.g. store your materials carefully so as not to spoil them and don't over order)

REUSE



- Materials instead of purchasing new ones (e.g. re-use solvents and cleaning fluids after settlement of dirt)
- Wash out emulsion paint tins and use them as paint kettles
- Clearly label and leave some unused paints on-site for touching up

RECYCLE



- Recycle as much as you can

Sorting your waste

GENERAL

Timber, paper, plastic, packaging, insulation, metal, set water based glues, paints and mastics (non-hazardous)

INERT

Bricks, blocks, set concrete and mortar, asphalt, ceramics, tiles, slate, sand, gravel

HAZARDOUS

Solvent based materials – e.g. mastics, glues, paints, vanishes, sealants, wood stains, additives and water proofing products, fuel, PCB containing products – e.g. resin based flooring, sealants, sealed glazed units, batteries, fluorescent tubes, electronics and electrical equipment



DON'T throw away old or oil paint – reuse where possible

General

DOs

- If you are disposing of tins containing water-based paint or paint residue, store them securely, remove the lids and allow the paint to harden before disposal
- You must separate hazardous waste from general waste – make sure you are aware of any materials you use which are hazardous, and segregate them
- Buy the right amount of paint for the job
- Give leftovers/surplus to community repaint for reuse – after manager's approval

DO NOT

- Pour anything except clean water down road drains
- Pour paints, anything else hazardous or anything that could cause a blockage down house drains
- Damaged work is wasteful; take steps to protect completed work so others cannot damage it
- Bad storage can be wasteful, keep stores secure, dry and organised

Did you know?

Of the **450 million litres** of paint sold in the UK each year, around **15%** is just stored and unused or thrown away