PLASTIC DESCRIPTIONS

Many plastic objects have embossed labels pressed into the surface,  
giving useful information and including recycling symbols.

Look carefully at any labels you see. Use this list to help you  
understand them.

Then sort the plastic items you have been given.

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| **Plastic type** | **How it is used** | **Symbol** |
| **Polyethylene terephthalate (PET)** | • Fizzy drink and water bottles  • Salad trays |  |
| **High-density polyethylene (HDPE)** | • Milk bottles, bleach, cleaners and most  shampoo bottles |  |
| **Polyvinyl chloride (PVC)** | • Pipes, fittings, window and door frames (rigid PVC)  • Thermal insulation (PVC foam) and  automotive parts. |  |
| **Low-density polyethylene (LDPE)** | • Carrier bags, bin liners and packaging films |  |
| **Polypropylene (PP)** | • Margarine tubs, microwavable meal trays  • Also produced as fibres and filaments for carpets, wall coverings and vehicle upholstery |  |
| **Polystyrene (PS)** | • Yoghurt pots, foam hamburger boxes and egg cartons, plastic cutlery, protective packaging for electronic goods and toys  • Insulating material in the building and construction industry |  |
| **Polyester** | • In some clothing, combined with other fabrics |  |
| **Nylon** | • Strong ropes, washing line |  |
| **Acrylic** | • In place of glass |  |