



Synthesis of the current and forthcoming bans on disposable products in France

The colored cells indicate the bans that do not apply to a product itself but to a certain use of this product.

Targeted disposable products	Start date	Reference document	Exact scope of the ban	Further analysis
"Oxo-fragmentable" or "oxo-degradable" plastics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">August 2015 for wrappings and bagsJanuary 2021 for all products	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Article 75 - Loi 2015-992 du 17 août 2015 (LTECV)Law anti-waste and for a circular economy (not promulgated yet)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">August 2015 : wrappings and bags that are fully or partially made of oxo-fragmentable plastic, are forbiddenJanuary 2021 : all products in oxo-degradable plastic are forbidden	It is a particular plastic material which quickly fragments into small particles under the light when it is thrown in nature. These particles, although they are invisible to the naked eye, remain in the environment.
Plastic bags 	January 2016 (checkout bags) then 2017 ("fruits and vegetables" bags), when the law fully entered into force.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Article 75 - Loi 2015-992 du 17 août 2015 (LTECV)Décret n° 2016-379 du 30 mars 2016	Plastic bags which thickness is below 50 micrometers are forbidden, except domestically compostable plastic bags that are at least 50% biobased (60% in 2025)	<p>Disposable plastic bags can still be found in some shops. It can be explained by 3 reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fraud• The bags are just above the thickness limitation (50 micrometers) and are thus considered "reusable" although they are tossed after one use most of the time• The bags are in biobased compostable plastic and are thus allowed.

Plastic microbeads 	January 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 124 - Loi 2016-1087 du 8 août 2016 (loi biodiversité) Décret n° 2017-291 du 6 mars 2017 Law anti-waste and for a circular economy (not promulgated yet) 	Plastic microbeads in rinse-off cosmetic products for exfoliation purposes or in cleaning products are banned.	These microbeads can be found in some shampoos, toothpastes or cleaning products. Once carried away with waste water, they ended up in the environment. The 2016 law restricts the ban on plastic microbeads to rinse-off products (shampoo, toothpaste), but they are not forbidden in other products (creams, paints...). The 2020 anti-waste law advocating a circular economy plans to progressively expand the scope of the ban to micro-plastic in general and other products than just rinse-off products.
Cotton buds 	January 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 124 - Loi 2016-1087 du 8 août 2016 (loi biodiversité) Décret n° 2017-291 du 6 mars 2017 	Cotton buds with a plastic shaft are banned, except for a medical use.	Cotton buds with a cardboard shaft remain authorized.
Plates 	January 2020 OR January 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 73 - LOI n° 2015-992 du 17 août 2015 Annexe B - Directive (UE) 2019/904 Law anti-waste and for a circular economy (not promulgated yet) Décret n° 2019-1451 du 24 décembre 2019 (changes to come following the anti-waste law) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On January 1st, 2020, disposable plastic plates are banned, except those which are compostable and at least partly biobased. On January 1st, 2021, disposable cardboard plates containing a plastic film and plastic compostable plates are also banned. 	<p>The 2015 law on energy transition had planned to ban only “table” plates that were fully composed of plastic, except compostable plastic plates. The 2019 European directive that will enter into force on July 1st, 2021 at the latest expanded these bans to all disposable plates that were composed at least partially of plastic (including disposable cardboard plates containing a plastic film and the compostable “bioplastic” plates). This expansion of the scope of the ban was taken into account by the French 2020 anti-waste law, which sets out two steps in the interdiction process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On January 1st, 2020, the plates which interdiction was planned in the 2015 law On January 1st, 2021, the other disposable plates targeted by the European directive.

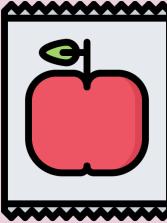
Plastic cups	January 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 73 - LOI n° 2015-992 du 17 août 2015 Law anti-waste and for a circular economy (not promulgated yet) Décret n° 2019-1451 du 24 décembre 2019 modifying the article D.543-294 du Code de l'environnement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On January 1st, 2020, plastic cups that are sold empty are banned, unless they are compostable and partly made with biobased material and unless they are only partially made with plastic and they are below the maximum level of plastic implemented by a decree. After the promulgation of the anti-waste law advocating for a circular economy (early 2020), domestically compostable plastic cups are also banned and do not benefit from an exemption. From July 3rd, 2021, plastic cups, including those containing a product (which are thus viewed as "wrappings") are also banned. 	<p>The ban on plastic cups <u>does not concern</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Until July 3rd, 2021: the cups that fall within the scope of the definition of a "packaging" according to European law (i.e that are filled with food/drinks or meant to be filled at the selling/distribution point, like the cups used in coffee machines). The ban thus mainly concerns the empty cups that are sold to the general public in supermarkets. After July 3rd, 2021, all plastic cups will be concerned. Cardboard cups with a plastic film: a decree will implement the maximum level of plastic that a cup must contain to be authorized, and this maximum level will be progressively lowered.
Plastic bottles	January 2020 or January 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 28 - Loi n°2018-938 du 30 octobre 2018 (EGAlim) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On January 1st, 2020, still water plastic bottles are banned in school collective catering services On January 1st, 2021, handing out plastic bottles (containing beverages) for free is forbidden in establishments welcoming 	<p>The interdiction does not concern the "plastic bottle" object itself but some of its uses.</p> <p>The ban on plastic bottles in school canteens is for still water only. The other bans concern all beverages.</p> <p>Several exemptions are planned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When the premises are not provided with a drinking water network, When there is a public health imperative, When the competent administrative authority adjudicates a restriction on water for human

			<p>an audience and in professional premises</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On January 1st, 2021, contractual clauses ordering the supply or use of plastic bottles in festive, sporting or cultural events are forbidden. 	<p>consumption for food uses,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the case of events, when it is impossible to replace plastic bottles with reusable products.
Plastic straws 	January 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annexe B - Directive (UE) 2019/904 Article 28 - Loi n°2018-938 du 30 octobre 2018 (EGALim) Law anti-waste and for a circular economy (not promulgated yet) 	<p>Plastic disposable straws are banned (including bioplastic straws), except those intended for medical use (falling under the directive 90/385/ CEE or the directive 93/42/ CEE)</p>	<p>Although initially planned for January 2020 with the law EGALim (2018), the ban on disposable plastic straws was postponed to January 2021 by the law anti-waste and for a circular economy (not promulgated yet). In addition, plastic straws will be banned in the European Union in July 2021 at the latest.</p>
Plastic mixing sticks 	January 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annexe B - Directive (UE) 2019/904 Article 28 - Loi n°2018-938 du 30 octobre 2018 (EGALim) Law anti-waste and for a circular economy (not promulgated yet) 	<p>Disposable plastic mixing sticks are banned (including those in bioplastic)</p>	<p>Although initially planned for January 2020 with the law EGALim (2018), the ban on disposable plastic mixing sticks was postponed to January 2021 by the law anti-waste and for a circular economy (not promulgated yet). In addition, plastic mixing sticks will be banned in the European Union in July 2021 at the latest.</p>

Disposable plastic cutlery 	January 2021 (with exceptions) and July 2021 (for every use)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annexe B - Directive (UE) 2019/904 • Article 28 - Loi n°2018-938 du 30 octobre 2018 (EGAlim) • Décret n° 2019-1451 du 24 décembre 2019 modifying the article D.543-294 du Code de l'environnement • Law anti-waste and for a circular economy (not promulgated yet) 	From January 2021, disposable plastic forks, knives, spoons and chopsticks (including those in bioplastic) are banned, except those used in penal institutions, care facilities and in air, rail and marine transportation, which benefit from an exemption until July 3 rd , 2021.	Although initially planned for January 2020 with the law EGAlim (2018), the ban on disposable plastic cutlery was postponed to January 2021 by the law anti-waste and for a circular economy (not promulgated yet). In addition, plastic cutlery will be banned in the European Union in July 2021 at the latest (including in penal institutions, care facilities and in air, rail and marine transportation).
Plastic lids 	January 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 28 - Loi n°2018-938 du 30 octobre 2018 (EGAlim) • Décret n° 2019-1451 du 24 décembre 2019 modifying the article D.543-294 du Code de l'environnement • Law anti-waste and for a circular economy (not promulgated yet) • Annexe A - Directive (UE) 2019/904 	Plastic closing tools and glass/cup lids are banned (including those in bioplastic).	Although initially planned for January 2020 with the law EGAlim (2018), the ban on plastic lids was postponed to January 2021 by the law anti-waste and for a circular economy (not promulgated yet). The exemption that was initially granted for “bioplastic” compostable lids was cancelled by the law anti-waste and for a circular economy and should thus not be applicable at the time when the ban will enter into force (January 2021).

Plastic steak picks	January 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Article 28 - Loi n°2018-938 du 30 octobre 2018 (EGAlim)</u> • <u>Décret n° 2019-1451 du 24 décembre 2019</u> modifying the article <u>D.543-294 du Code de l'environnement</u> • Law anti-waste and for a circular economy (not promulgated yet) 		Although initially planned for January 2020 with the law EGAlim (2018), the ban on plastic steak picks was postponed to January 2021 by the law anti-waste and for a circular economy (not promulgated yet).
Plastic confetti	January 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law anti-waste and for a circular economy (not promulgated yet) 		

Expanded polystyrene containers, bottles and cups (including their lids) 	January 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annexe B - Directive (UE) 2019/904 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law anti-waste and for a circular economy (not promulgated yet) 	Containers and cups in expanded polystyrene are banned. The term “container” refers to the boxes used to contain the food which: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> is meant to be eaten immediately, either in or away, is generally eaten in the container, and is ready to be eaten without any preparation (such as cooking or heating) 	The interdiction aims at a specific material: expanded polystyrene (the EU acknowledged its high prevalence in the marine environment and the availability of alternative products), and specific packagings: containers and cups that are traditionally used in the fast food/take-away industry (example of the “Kebab box”)
Balloon plastic rods 	January 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annexe B - Directive (UE) 2019/904 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law anti-waste and for a circular economy (not promulgated yet) 	The interdiction affects the rods only (including those in bioplastic), not the balloons.	

Plastic packaging for fruits and vegetables 	January 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law anti-waste and for a circular economy (not promulgated yet) 	<p>Packagings made of plastic, at least partially, that wrap fresh, unprocessed fruits and vegetables which are displayed in retail spaces are banned. This ban does not apply to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lots weighing 1.5 kilo or more • fruits and vegetables posing a risk of deterioration when they are sold in bulk (listed by decree). 	<p>The ambition and the exact scope of this ban entirely depends on the decree that should be implemented in 2020 and should define the fruits and vegetables that are exempted because they pose a risk of deterioration when sold in bulk.</p>
Plastic tea (or herbal tea) bags 	January 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law anti-waste and for a circular economy (not promulgated yet) 	<p>The ban does not affect “biodegradable” tea bags (in paper, but also potentially in plastic if they <i>“can undergo a physical or biological decomposition, so as to finally decompose into carbon dioxide, biomass and water”</i> in accordance with the Directive (UE) 2019/904)</p>	<p>This ban follows a study which showed the release of billions of plastic microparticles in teas or herbal teas when they are brewed in plastic bags (nylon or PET). A single tea bag can release more than 2 million plastic particles.</p>
Disposable plastic products used in the State's central administration	January 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law anti-waste and for a circular economy (not promulgated yet) 	<p>The ban only affects the State administration and not the territorial or hospital administration.</p>	<p>The ambition of this ban will depend on the implementing decree that will define the cases to which this ban does not apply, particularly for health or safety reasons.</p>

			Disposable plastic (intended to be used in the workplace and in events organized by the State) is banned. A decree clarifies the applicable exemptions.	
Plastic toys 	January 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law anti-waste and for a circular economy (not promulgated yet) 	Providing plastic toys for free, as part of children's menus, is forbidden.	The ban aims particularly at plastic toys that are given with children's menus in the fast food industry.
Containers, cups, lids and cutlery used in (onsite) catering 	January 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law anti-waste and for a circular economy (not promulgated yet) 	Disposable containers, cups (including the lids) and cutlery are banned, whatever their material may be, when the meals are served on site in eating establishments.	The ban (expressed in the form of an "obligation of reusable") does not only affect plastic products but all disposable packagings, whether they are in plastic, cardboard or a blend of different materials. It materializes the principle according to which " <i>the best waste is the one you don't produce</i> ", and acknowledges the fact that packaging, even when it is compostable or recyclable, leads to a huge impact on the environment when it is disposable.
Plastic food containers 	January 2025 or January 2028	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law anti-waste and for a circular economy (not promulgated yet) <u>Article 28 - Loi n°2018-938 du 30 octobre 2018 (EGAlim)</u> 	Plastic food containers for cooking, heating and service are banned in collective catering services in schools and academic institutions, in childcare centres, paediatric/obstetric/maternity wards, and in perinatal centres.	This ban aims at taking into account the health hazards and particularly the risk of exposure to endocrine disruptors posed by plastic food containers used in canteens.

			For the local authorities counting less than 2000 inhabitants, the ban will enter into force before 2028.	
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