

The Life Cycle of a Recycled Can!

STEP 1: Recycle It



Dispose of your used and empty can into a recycling bin. Usually denoted by a triangle composed of three arrows looping back on themselves in a clockwise direction, also called a Mobius Loop.

Cool fact: Aluminum is the most valuable recyclable because it can be recycled an unlimited amount of times.

STEP 2: Reduce It

A recycling facility recovers the can from the recycling bin and sends it to an aluminum refining plant, where it is sorted, cleaned, and melted into a large solid block, called an ingot.



Cool fact: An ingot is usually made out of 1.6 million aluminum cans.

STEP 3: Roll It



The ingots are then sent to aluminum mills where it is rolled out and pressed thin into aluminum sheets.

Cool fact: Rolling the ingots out gives the aluminum greater flexibility and strength.

STEP 4: Repurpose It

The pressed aluminum sheets are then shaped into an aluminum product. (i.e. cans, foil, candy wrappers or ready meal packing.)

Cool fact: Recycling aluminum saves 95% of the greenhouse gas emissions compared to creating aluminum from raw materials or undergoing a smelting process.

Aluminum cans
are 100%
recyclable

STEP 5: Reuse It



The recycled aluminum products are then sent back to shops or manufacturers to distribute to consumers and are ready to be used again.

Cool fact: The recycling process can take as little as 60 days.

