

LITTLE
RIPPLES MAKE
BIG CHANGE

Shopping Bags



SINGLE-USE & PLASTIC WASTE PREVENTION REGULATION

gov.bc.ca/reuse

What is a shopping bag? New carrier bags (like grocery bags) that are provided to customers, most often at a checkout.

What you need to know

As of December 20, 2023, Canada is phasing out single-use plastic shopping bags.



PROHIBITED



As of July 15, 2024, B.C. businesses must charge a fee for new reusable and new paper bags.

FEE REQUIRED



What you need to do

1. Stop using plastic checkout bags

Don't provide customers with single-use plastic shopping bags, including those made of compostable, biodegradable or oxo-degradable plastic.

2. Offer customers the option to use their own bag or to go bag-less

Post a sign or mention it at the register. Download our reusable bag poster at gov.bc.ca/reuse.

3. Charge fees for reusable and paper shopping bags

- ▶ Charge at least \$2 for each new reusable shopping bag and at least 25¢ for each new recycled paper shopping bag.
- ▶ Let customers know about the fee in advance, and show any fee charged as a separate line item on receipts.
- ▶ You may use the fees you collect as you choose: to offset your costs, for example, or to invest in a take-a-bag/leave-a-bag program.

