



**The Western Australian Government
has implemented a state-wide ban
on lightweight plastic shopping bags
from 1 July 2018.**

From 1 January 2019 it will be illegal for retailers
to provide banned bags to customers.

The ban applies to ALL retailers including takeaway food.



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

www.bagbanwa.com.au

1800 817 723

bagbanwa@nra.net.au



National Retail
Association

1. FIND OUT IF YOUR BAGS ARE BANNED

The ban applies to **ALL lightweight plastic shopping bags, with a thickness of 35 microns or less**, including degradable, biodegradable and compostable bags.

Ask your bag supplier to provide evidence of the minimum thickness (microns or 'um') of your bags. Suppliers face substantial fines for providing false or misleading information about banned bags from 1 July 2018.

Barriers bags used for perishable unpackaged produce (eg. for fruit or meat) and product packaging (eg. bread bags) are not included in the ban.



2. PHASE OUT ALL EXISTING STOCK OF BANNED BAGS

Retailers should cease buying banned bags from 1 July 2018 and deplete existing stock. Retailers face substantial fines if they supply banned bags to customers after 31 December 2018.

3. INTRODUCE ALTERNATIVES

Each business has unique needs and customers and you should weigh up the best option for you, such as paper, cardboard, woven, fabric or heavyweight reusable plastic bags.

You might choose to charge a small fee for these bags to cover costs, or you may even decide that you don't really need to provide bags at all.

We do NOT recommend using plastic singlet bags with a thickness close to 35 microns as they pose substantial risks for retailers.



FIND OUT MORE:

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Tollfree Hotline: 1800 817 723 Email: bagbanwa@nra.net.au