

Sharps Containers



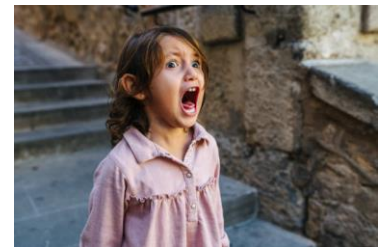
What are Sharps?

Sharps are tools with sharp points or edges that can puncture (make a hole) or cut the skin. They can be used to give medication or blood samples. Examples of Sharps devices include syringes, needles, and lancets used to check blood sugar.

What is a Sharps container?

Used Sharps waste can spread germs, hurt people, and animals if not thrown away the right way. Sharps containers are made of:

- stiff plastic that cannot be punctured
- metal sides and bottom that will not leak
- and a lid that is tight-fitting and not able to be punctured



What if I do not have a Sharps container?

Sharps containers can be purchased at most retail pharmacies and online. If you are not able to buy a Sharps container, you can make your own at home.

Examples of Sharps Containers	
You can use:	DO NOT USE
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Laundry detergent• Liquid laundry softener• Bleach bottles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Milk containers• Water bottles• Glass containers• Soda Cans

You will need the following supplies:

- An empty container made of strong plastic.
 - It should stay upright (does not lean or fall)
 - Have a tight-fitting lid that cannot be punctured
 - Make sure the container does not leak.
- Duct tape to seal the container once the container is $\frac{3}{4}$ full.
- Pen and paper to label the container “SHARPS” and “DO NOT RECYCLE”.



Where can I find drop-off locations for homemade Sharps containers?

Drop-off locations can be found by visiting the CalRecycle website (<https://calrecycle.ca.gov>).

Pharmacy

4650 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90027 | CHLA.org

Approved by PFE 01/19/23

How do I get rid of the Sharps container?

Sharps Container you bought	Sharps Container you made at home
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Follow the product specific instructions for disposal (getting rid of or throwing away) once the container is $\frac{3}{4}$ fullSome purchased Sharps containers include postage to mail-in used containers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">When the sharps container is $\frac{3}{4}$ full <u>close</u> the lid, tape it shut, and label the container with “SHARPS” and “DO NOT RECYCLE”.After the Sharps container is packaged, take the container to a drop-off location for disposal, do NOT dispose of in regular household trash.

Each state has specific disposal instructions. Please follow your state’s specific instructions if different from what is included in this document.