

## Presentation

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## Summary

Plastic is cheap and disposed of quickly after use. How plastic is disposed depends on the consumer's responsibility and residence. In many countries garbage is stocked in landfills, polluting air and groundwater. In other countries, garbage is burnt in incinerators, emitting huge amounts of CO<sub>2</sub>. If plastic enters a water current, it likely ends up in the ocean, where it slowly decomposes and is eaten by fish and other marine creatures. Health detrimental residues of plastic end up on our dining plate, because edible fish such as salmon and tuna eat smaller fish contaminated by plastic particles. Some kinds of plastic can be recycled, others should be avoided. [108 words]

## Guiding Questions

1. How can plastic be disposed of?
2. What detrimental effects on the environment does plastic garbage have?

## References

1. [Plastics by the Number](#)
2. [What really happens to the plastic you throw away](#)

## Word Bank

1. carcinogen: krebserregend
2. contamination: Verschmutzung
3. to disperse: sich verteilen
4. garment bag: Kleiderhülle
5. gyre: Wirbel
6. incinerator: Müllverbrennungsanlage
7. landfill: Mülldeponie
8. sheathing: Ummantelung
9. styrofoam: Styropor