



Recycling blog

Do your bit for Douglas
and help save the planet



Who we are:

We are a blended family of five. Our three children live with us 50% of time.

We have two cats and a dog and we both work full time.



Where we live:

We live on the outskirts of Douglas in an area where fortnightly collections have already begun. We moved to our new home, having previously lived in Peel, where collections are weekly, so this was quite a change for us. It's definitely made us more mindful of how much waste we create; we've started recycling, trying not to buy unnecessary packaging and have reduced kitchen waste through meal planning and using up leftovers. There is a new recycling collection that has just started in our village but we choose not to use this service as it's an extra cost for us, so we take it ourselves to the Eastern Civic Amenity Site and other Bring Bank recycling points. For the purpose of this blog however, we're experimenting with storing our waste for a two-week period, as would be the case for Douglas residents with fortnightly refuse/ recycling collections.

DAY 1

During the weekly Tesco shop, we need to think about what waste there will be once the product/food has been used. We find that the best way to minimise waste is to plan what we want to eat for the week and to make sure we use leftovers from dinner for packed lunches. We're also choosing items with less packaging or recyclable packaging.



DAY 3

We are starting to realise that we can recycle more than we have been. We've probably been putting more paper and card in the rubbish bin that we should have and some plastics have been making it into the rubbish bin because, previously only plastic bottles could be recycled –the new system means we can recycle any plastic which has the number 1, 2 or 5 on it

DAY 4

We mowed the lawn and the cuttings have gone into the garden waste bin (this is a second bin which, for the purpose of our experiment we are using for garden waste only), ordinarily we take our garden waste in bin bags to the amenity site.

DAY 5

Old habits die hard it seems! We are noticing the children, even though quite well educated through school and at home on environmental matters and recycling methods, are still not automatically using the recycling bins. For them the kitchen bin is more convenient, so a little intense training course is needed!



DAY 7

It's quite satisfying looking at our wheelie bin with just the two full kitchen bin bags in it. There is absolutely loads of room left in it and the recycling bins, although filling up, have space in them too



DAY 9

The can and plastic bin is getting quite full, so we've started crushing the cans and squeezing the bottles, if you put the lid back on after squeezing it stays flat

DAY 12

Had an Amazon delivery, which came with the usual amount of cardboard, managed to squeeze this in to the bag!



DAY 13

Another mow for the lawn and some of the bushes at the front of our house needed a good chop, so this also went into the garden waste bin, which is now three quarters full.

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DAY 14

With only three small kitchen bin bags in the wheelie bin, it was collected! That was really satisfying -we were amazed at the difference and we actually think we could have gone another two weeks without a collection.

