

Home Waste Audit

Purpose

A waste audit will tell you how much waste you currently generate and how much you could be recycling instead. Once you know what materials you're wasting the most, you can take action to reduce your waste.

How to do the Audit

Get the following supplies:

- Your garbage from the day (or week)
- Gloves
- A large tarp (or mat to place the garbage on)
- Waste Audit Chart (on the back of this sheet) and Pencil



Step 1: Sort and Track

Sort each item from your garbage into the following categories: garbage, recycling, compost, and other (e.g. technology/hazardous waste). Record your results on the waste audit chart.

*How do you know what goes where? Go to <https://www.cityofkingston.ca/resident/garbage-recycling/waste-tools/lookup>.

Step 2: Clean Up

Clean up by properly sorting the waste, recycling, and composting.

Step 3: Reflect

Did you find any items that could have been recycled, composted, or simply reused instead of thrown away? Brainstorm ideas to reduce the amount going into the garbage! Try the audit again in a few months to see if your ideas have reduced your household waste!