



**American
Packaging**
CORPORATION

RE[®] DESIGN FOR COMPOST



Compost Packaging is made from natural materials that are designed to break down in a specified composting environment within a specific time period. Testing is conducted using either ASTM D6400 (film-based) or ASTM D6868 (paper-based). The packaging must fully degrade in <12 weeks, break down into natural elements, and leave no toxicity.

HOME COMPOSTING

More challenging and performed at lower temperatures. Currently the U.S. does not yet have a home compostable standard.

INDUSTRIAL COMPOSTING

Uses higher temperatures and conditions to accelerate the decomposition.

COMPOSTABLE PACKAGING GUIDELINES

- Products best suited for compostable packaging are difficult to clean or have food contamination, such as vegetables and produce, snacks, dry products, and coffee/tea.
- Compostable packaging is not suitable for liquid products, as the packaging will begin to break down in storage.
- Compostable packaging has a shorter shelf life, typically best used by 6 months.
- To be labeled compostable, packaging must be certified by Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI).

APC'S COMPOSTABLE PACKAGING

- Typical materials include Cellophane, PLA, PHA, Starch, PBS, BioPET, some papers, and metallized films/papers.
- APC offers both adhesive and extrusion laminations and/or coating.
- Heat seal compostable packaging options are available. Cold seal compostable packaging is not yet available, but is in development.
- Compostable packaging includes both laminations and surface print mono-web options.

