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TerraCycle® Tiny Changes Recycling Box FAQs

Who is TerraCycle?

[TerraCycle](#) is an international leader in innovative sustainability solutions, creating and operating first-of-their-kind platforms in recycling, recycled materials, and reuse. Across 21 countries, TerraCycle is on a mission to eliminate the idea of waste and develop practical solutions for today's complex waste challenges.

How is TerraCycle different from curbside recycling services?

TerraCycle develops ways to collect and recycle waste that is not generally accepted by traditional municipal recycling services, like dental aligners. We have years of unmatched experience recycling oral care waste and dental aligners, which are legal to recycle in all 50 states. Here's how we stand out:

① Our guarantee

We legally guarantee to recycle all the accepted waste sent to us through all TerraCycle recycling solutions. **We recycle 98.3% of the waste we receive**, which accounts for all compliant waste.

② Recycling the *unrecyclable*

Municipal recycling services typically only accept materials they can make a profit from, like aluminum or glass. TerraCycle can recycle hard-to-recycle waste thanks to our partners who fund the recycling process and our team of in-house scientists who have developed specialized processes to recycle hundreds of waste streams.

3 Supply chain excellence

We invest heavily in tracking software, expert personnel, and standardized equipment to ensure our processes are optimized. All partners are contractually entitled to audits of the waste streams we recycle for them, and they can also conduct their own audits.

Learn more about [our recycling process](#) and [the TerraCycle difference](#).

What is a Tiny Changes Recycling Box?

TerraCycle's Zero Waste Boxes are a simple, all-in-one solution for recycling hard-to-recycle waste. Your Tiny Changes Recycling Box is a specialized Zero Waste Box designed to accept orthodontic waste. The box dimensions are 11.3125 x 11.125 x 39.125. When you send your box back to TerraCycle using the attached prepaid return shipping label, we'll recycle it into new products such as industrial drainage pipes, storage boxes, and plant pots or use it as filler in extruded product applications such as plastic lumber and sheeting.

How does a Tiny Changes Recycling Box work?

- 1 Set up your box following the directions written on the folds. **Please note:** You can recycle the shipping bag by placing it inside this box.
- 2 Place your Tiny Changes Recycling Box in an easily accessible location, then collect accepted orthodontic waste for recycling.
- 3 When full, please seal the box and send it back to TerraCycle by using the prepaid shipping label that is already affixed to your box.
- 4 If your office has a pre-existing daily pickup with UPS, you can leave the box in your designated outbound shipping area or give it to your UPS driver.
- 5 If your office does not have a pre-existing daily pick-up, you can take your box to any UPS location to have it sent back to TerraCycle for recycling. To find a convenient UPS location near you, visit [ups.com/dropoff](https://www.ups.com/dropoff).



What can I put into the Tiny Changes Recycling Box?

This box accepts any brand of new and used aligners, plastic aligner bags, clear retainer material, empty floss containers, empty toothpaste tubes, toothbrushes, plastic air/water syringe tips, microbrushes, used prophylaxis angles, Movemints™ wrappers, plastic remote monitoring lenses, high vacuum suction tips, and plastic packaging. The accepted and unaccepted waste is also listed directly on your box.

Do not send in any type of hazardous waste, medical waste, or other forms of regulated waste, including items with blood or tissue, or anything that contains or has come in contact with hazardous or infectious substances. Items with saliva are accepted.

Please instruct your patients to rinse and dry aligners before dropping them off to prevent odors.

Patients should be advised to remove or deface any protected health information (PHI), including names, before recycling. Please follow universal precautions when handling aligners. Any disposal of items with personal details is at the patient's own risk.

Does the box need to be completely full before I ship it?

Yes. We encourage you to only ship your box back to TerraCycle when it is full in order to minimize the carbon footprint.

How is the accepted waste recycled?

We receive all waste at our TerraCycle Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs) where compliant waste is aggregated so it can be efficiently sent to our processing partners. Depending on the material type, it may take **1-3 months** to have enough aggregated volume of waste to send to processors. All compliant materials are sorted and then processed into raw materials. Plastics are shredded or densified and, if necessary, cleaned to remove residual product or other contaminants. Clean plastics are mixed with other plastics to make recycled plastic blends to make recycled lumber, shipping pallets, playgrounds, and much more.

Questions? Please contact TerraCycle at customer@terracycle.com or 1-866-846-7786.

