



## Plastic Action Champions' top 10 thrifty tips for reducing plastic waste at Christmas

Christmas is a time for celebration and merriment but that doesn't mean it is inevitable that 125,000 tonnes of plastic waste are binned every Christmas in the UK. Greenprint's Plastic Action Champions have collated the following top 10 suggestions for easy and positive things we can do towards a lower-impact Christmas:

- Consider sending e-cards or plastic & glitter-free cards for the festive season, as many contain a coating which makes them non-recyclable.
- Any cards you receive that can't be recycled, cut up and use as gift tags for the next year!
- Give gifts of memories rather than objects such as a meal out or a day trip, or membership to a charity.
- Think about 2<sup>nd</sup> hand shopping – pick up a bargain from a charity shop!
- Wrap gifts in reusable cloth, cotton bags or paper that's already been used once such as newspaper, secured with natural string.
- Have a look at reusable advent calendars with pockets or boxes that can be filled with treats or toys of your own choice and use again next year.
- Make your own crackers with toilet roll tubes and any spare paper, these can be personalised to your guests to make them extra-special.
- Decorate with natural foliage such as holly (with permission from the plant's owner!)
- Take friends and family out for a walk and pick up some plastic litter at the same time - just pop some gloves and a bag in your pocket on your way out.
- Remember you don't have to do everything, and even if we all each make just a little change, that will add up to make a massive difference!

**Wishing you all a Jolly Green Christmas and a Happy New Year -**

**From the Greenprint Forum Steering Group and our network of Plastic Action Champions**