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**Embalaža - Načrtovanje za recikliranje plastične embalaže - 4. del: Smernica za plastenke iz polietilen tereftalata (PET-plastenke)**

Packaging - Design for recycling of plastic packaging - Part 4: Guideline for PET bottles

Verpackung - Recyclingorientierte Gestaltung von Kunststoffverpackungsprodukten - Teil 4: Leitfaden und Protokolle für Flaschen aus PET

Emballages - Conception des emballages plastiques en vue de leur recyclage - Partie 4 : Lignes directrices pour les bouteilles en PET

**Ta slovenski standard je istoveten z: EN 18120-4:2026**

**ICS:**

13.030.50	Recikliranje	Recycling
55.020	Pakiranje in distribucija blaga na splošno	Packaging and distribution of goods in general
83.080.20	Plastomeri	Thermoplastic materials

**SIST EN 18120-4:2026****en,fr,de**

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EUROPEAN STANDARD

**EN 18120-4**

NORME EUROPÉENNE

EUROPÄISCHE NORM

April 2026

ICS 13.030.50; 55.020

English Version

## Packaging - Design for recycling of plastic packaging - Part 4: Guideline for PET bottles

Emballages - Conception des emballages plastiques en  
vue de leur recyclage - Partie 4 : Lignes directrices  
pour les bouteilles en PET

Verpackung - Recyclingorientierte Gestaltung von  
Kunststoffverpackungsprodukten - Teil 4: Leitfaden  
und Protokolle für Flaschen aus PET

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 9 February 2026.

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## European foreword

This document (EN 18120-4:2026) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 261 “Packaging”, the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by October 2026, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by October 2026.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document has been prepared under a standardization request addressed to CEN by the European Commission. The Standing Committee of the EFTA States subsequently approves these requests for its Member States.

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users’ national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CEN website.

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**EN 18120-4:2026 (E)****Introduction**

The EN 18120 series, under the general title *Packaging — Design for recycling of plastic packaging*, which aims via a series of guidelines and protocols to establish consistency and improvement for the design for recycling of household, industrial and commercial plastic packaging, consists of the following parts:

- *Part 1: Definitions and principles for design-for-recycling of plastic packaging*
- *Part 3: Evaluation processes for the sortability of plastic packaging*
- *Part 4: Guideline for PET bottles*
- *Part 5: Guideline for PET rigid packaging (except bottles)*
- *Part 6: Guideline for PE and PP rigid packaging*
- *Part 7: Guideline for PE and PP flexible packaging*
- *Part 8: Guideline for PS and XPS rigid packaging*
- *Part 9: Guideline for EPS packaging*
- *Part 10: Recyclability evaluation process for plastic packaging — Protocols for PET bottles*
- *Part 11: Recyclability evaluation process for plastic packaging — Protocols for PET rigid packaging (except bottles)*
- *Part 12: Recyclability evaluation process for plastic packaging — Protocols for PE and PP rigid packaging*
- *Part 13: Recyclability evaluation process for plastic packaging — Protocols for PE and PP flexible packaging*
- *Part 14: Recyclability evaluation process for plastic packaging — Protocols for PS and XPS rigid packaging*
- *Part 15: Recyclability evaluation process for plastic packaging — Protocols for EPS packaging*

Design for recycling guidelines are a common way of evaluating the compatibility with plastic-packaging collection, sorting and recycling which enables the use of secondary raw materials that are of sufficient quality when compared to the original material, in state-of-the-art facilities.

They provide guidance on the level of compatibility, defined as:

- green: packaging constituents and components with full compatibility with state-of-the-art collection, sorting and recycling;
- yellow: packaging constituents and components with limited compatibility with state-of-the-art collection, sorting and recycling;
- red: packaging constituents and components which are not compatible with state-of-the-art collection, sorting and recycling.

The design for recycling guidelines provided in the EN 18120 series cover the design for recycling based on the knowledge available at the time of the development of this document and are representative of the

state-of-the-art. They consider packaging waste collection, sorting and recycling, so that the recycled plastic can substitute primary raw materials in packaging application or other applications. Compliance with the design guidelines in the EN 18120 series does not guarantee that the recycled plastic quality will be fit for purpose for a specific targeted end application or compliant with applicable regulations.

Packaging recyclability is the combination of design of recycling, proven collection, sorting and recycling in practice.

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