



GOT QUESTIONS? ASK THE PROFESSOR!



Q. What does “recycled” mean in the realm of Thermo-Serv/Betras?

A. Recycling is using something again in some form. At Thermo-Serv/Betras, we are re-using material from already-made mugs to create a new mug. When we make a mug, in the normal course of molding parts from pellets, there are some parts that do not form completely or are not the correct color. There are also parts that are made at start-up that are not the proper dimensions. These parts are then ground into small pieces and then re-melted to make a new part.

Q. Is it safe to put a recycled mug in the dishwasher?

A. The recycled mug is no different than a regular mug. Top-rack dishwashing is fine. Remember also that some strong rinse aids and detergents can soften the printing on any mug, so care is needed in determining if any combination will cause the printing to become smeared or damaged. Always allow mugs to cool after the drying cycle before using to avoid any potential for print smearing.

Q. Why are all TS/B recycled mugs black?

A. Because of the mix of colors and natural material that is ground up, black is the only color that can be attained.

Q. How is using my recycled mug good for the environment?

A. There are several issues involved in the use of recycled materials for mugs:

1. The material is used to make a part from rejected parts that would otherwise be discarded to the landfill. Less landfill is good!
2. Additional virgin material is not required, thus saving the natural resources needed to make the virgin material and also reducing the gases such as carbon dioxide that add to the global warming issue.
3. Using a recycled mug reduces the amount of other materials that are used in disposable containers, such as paper or non-recycleable material (like Styrofoam).
4. The recycled mug can be recycled again and again and again, placing less stress on the environment in terms of landfill and air pollution factors.

Q. Is it safe to drink from my recycled mug?

A. The material used in the recycling process is not changed from the original virgin material and meets the requirement for food contact application as set forth by the Food and Drug Administration. (The specific regulation is 21 CFR 177.1520.)

Q. Can I microwave my recycled mug?

A. Yes, the material the mug is recycled from is safe in microwave heating cycles.