

Specifications for Different Types of Containers for Clinical Waste

1. Sharps box

- Conform with *BS 7320:1990* in respect of resistance to penetration and resistance to leakage after vertical dropping and toppling or similar specification for sharps containers;
- Capable of being sealed;
- Provided with a handle that is not part of the closure device, wherever practicable;
- Combustible and capable of being safely incinerated, and should not be made from polyvinylchloride (PVC);
- Legibly marked with a horizontal line to indicate when the sharps box is filled to between 70% and 80% of its maximum volume, together with the words “WARNING - DO NOT FILL ABOVE THE LINE”, wherever practicable;
- Coloured in yellow or combination of white and yellow; and
- Capable of being marked by indelible ink and securely attached by labels.

2. Heavy duty plastic bag

- With a maximum nominal capacity of 0.1 m³;
- Of minimum gauge of 150 microns if made from low density polyethylene, or 75 microns if made from high density polyethylene or polypropylene, and should not be made from polyvinylchloride (PVC);
- Of suitable size and shape to fit the holder which supports the bag in use;
- Legibly marked with a horizontal line to indicate when the bag is filled to between 70% and 80% of its maximum volume, together with the words “WARNING - DO NOT FILL ABOVE THE LINE”;
- Coloured in red (clinical waste other than Group 1 or 3 wastes) or yellow (for Group 3 waste); and
- Capable of being marked by indelible ink and securely attached by labels.

3. Plastic Drum

- Capable of being sealed;
- Proof against spillage of their contents;
- Combustible and capable of being safely incinerated, and should not be made from polyvinylchloride (PVC);
- Legibly marked with a horizontal line to indicate when the drum is filled to between 70% and 80% of its maximum volume, together with the words “WARNING - DO NOT FILL ABOVE THE LINE”;
- Coloured in red (clinical waste other than Group 1 or 3 wastes) or yellow (Group 3 waste); and
- Capable of being marked by indelible ink and securely attached by labels.