



## Case Study: Hot Drink Stirrers

Cafes and take away businesses that serve hot drinks often give out lots of single-use stirrers. During the course of the Ditching Disposables project some businesses tried different methods to reduce the amount of stirrers they used.

### Bross Bagels reducing stirrers

Edinburgh based chain, Bross Bagels, serves a range of hot drinks alongside their bagel dishes and used a lot of disposable stirrers.

The business decided to take the simple but effective step of moving stirrers off tables, and only handing them out to customers when requested.

This was a simple method to implement and only required communication with staff to make them aware of the changes to processes. Bross Bagels saw a large reduction in the amount of stirrers used after just a short period of time.

### What did customers think?

Customers at Bross Bagels were also on board with reducing the amount of stirrers used. They told us in the project survey:

"I think it is a great idea, as we would never use them! It means that they are only given to people that need them - and not handed out unnecessarily."

"I think only giving out stirrers to those who need them is a great idea to help reduce waste."

**Bross Bagels were using 350 stirrers a months.**

**This simple step cut their stirrer use by**

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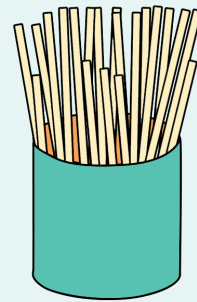
Plastic stirrers were included as part of the Single-Use Plastics Directive in 2022, meaning they were effectively banned in businesses in Scotland.

## Don't switch, ditch!

Switching plastic stirrers for wood or other materials still creates single-use waste. See the recommended steps below to reduce and eliminate disposable stirrers

### Keeping stirrers behind the counter

Only giving stirrers when customers ask for them is a simple but effective way to reduce the number of stirrers used. It can be implemented immediately and doesn't require anything additional being purchased. All it requires is staff to be aware and advised on how to implement in their role.



### Providing reusable spoons

Offering metal spoons can be a great way to eliminate single-use stirrers altogether. It can save businesses money as they no longer need to order disposable stirrers.

All you'll need is a space for people to get their hot drinks ready and stirred before they head out.

