

Food-Grade Containers for Prepared Foods Donation

Options for Commercial Kitchens

Please note: This list suggests food-grade, FDA/USDA-approved packaging options that Food Recovery Organizations may accept from your business. It is not comprehensive or vendor-specific. Use this guide as a reference, and feel free to explore other suppliers.

Prepared food donations must be stored safely, free from freezer burn, and contained in leak-proof, food-grade packaging. Once cooked, food cannot be donated if it has been cooled and reheated. All donations should be labeled with the food name, allergens, and preparation date, and packaged in individual or small, family-sized portions (4-8 portions).

Example of Prepared Foods Label:



Date: _____

Food Name: _____

Allergen Warning: Food in this container may contain or have traces of these allergens: milk, eggs, peanuts, tree nuts, fish, shellfish, wheat, soybeans, and/or sesame seeds.

Prepared By: _____

Types of Food-Grade Packaging:

Plastic Containers: Ideal for freezer and fridge storage of prepared foods, often available in individual packaging. Tamper-evident containers are recommended for added security, ensuring food safety during transport and storage.



Tamper-Evident Containers

- leak-resistant lid
- FDA compliant
- freezer- and fridge-safe
- rectangular: 12, 16, 24, and 32 oz. capacities
- round: 16, 24, 32, and 48 oz. capacities



Heavy-Duty Deli Containers

- BPA free
- leak-resistant lid
- FDA and USDA compliant
- freezer-, fridge- and microwave-safe
- recyclable
- cylindrical containers with 8 oz., 12 oz., 16 oz., and 32 oz. capacities



One-Piece Hinged Take-Out Containers

- BPA free
- FDA compliant
- fridge-, microwave-, and dishwasher-safe
- rectangular containers with 18 oz., 39 oz., and 40 oz. 3-compartment capacities



Leakproof Bags

- FDA and USDA compliant
- freezer- and fridge-safe
- available dimensions in inches: 3x6, 6x6, 7x8, 9x12, 12x12, 16x16

Aluminum Foil Containers: Perfect for hot foods, as they can go straight into the oven. Ensure they come with lids or are properly sealed to prevent leaks.

Full Size

½ Size

¼ Size



Aluminum Steam Table Pans

- FDA and Kosher compliant
- freezer- and oven-safe
- dimensions (inches): full size: 21x13x3 , 1/2 size: 13x10x3, ¼ Size: 13x7x3



Aluminum Foil Containers

- includes foil laminated paper lids
- FDA compliant
- base: freezer-, fridge- and oven-safe
- lid: freezer- and fridge-safe
- capacity: round: 24 and 48 oz., rectangle: 36 oz.

Reusable To-Go Containers: Reusable eco-takeout containers are some of the most environmentally-friendly alternative take-out containers that a business can use to donate surplus edible prepared foods. The options below are microwave safe, leak resistant, and stackable for easy/efficient storage.



GET Eco-Takeouts Container

- BPA free polypropylene
- leak-resistant
- microwave- and dishwasher-safe
- clear or green
- dimensions (inches): 8x5.5x2.75



3-Compartment Eco-Takeouts Container

- BPA free polypropylene
- leak-resistant
- microwave- and dishwasher-safe
- clear or green
- dimensions (inches): 9x9x3.5



Preserve 3 Compartment Take-Out Container

- 50% recycled plastic
- BPA and phthalate free
- leak-resistant
- microwave-, freezer-, and dishwasher-safe
- 1,000+ uses
- dimensions (inches): 9x9x3