



Managing crib kits on a mine site with full-time personnel and multiple contractors

A Western Australian mining company has achieved more than a decade of success with a blended approach to reusable meal kits, which are given to staff while contractors buy their own. The mine site encompasses about 950 workers, including its own teams and those of 10 contractors operating under varied systems and guidelines.

The company has provided moderately priced, unbranded crib kits to its full-time personnel for about 15 years. They are distributed to new starters on arrival using a reservation system from the onsite warehouse. Contractors buy and provide various crib kits from their individual suppliers based on contractual obligations and partnerships. There is a dining hall, tavern, cafe, outdoor kitchen and retail store on site.



The unbranded kit contains:

- 14 Litre insulated crib bag
- 1.2 Litre insulated drink flask
- 1.6 Litre or 900 mL and 500 mL microwaveable food containers.

A stainless steel camping cutlery set (slot-in knife, fork, spoon and can opener) is stocked at the warehouse on site but is not popular, with people reporting they dislike eating with it. Reusable crockery, cups and mugs (350 mL) are used in the dining hall. Catering is managed by an external company.

Infrastructure

- Washing stations – multiple single sinks with hot water
- Sinks located in crib rooms
- Racks outside dining hall to hang crib bags (not permitted inside for hygiene reasons)

Rollout lead time and communications

The use of crib kits on site is included in online inductions and there are signs placed outside the dining hall. After 15 years, the culture of using reusable crib kits is widely known and accepted.

Tips

- Set and communicate policy expectations that hands must be washed with soap and water before entering the dining hall.
- Set and communicate policy expectations that containers must be washed with soap and water daily before dishing food.



For more information on rolling out reusables in mining villages, visit the WA Government's Plan for Plastics webpage on the project [Reusable solutions for mine site catering | Western Australian Government](#).