



Outsourcing and managing mine site crib kits

A Western Australian mine site with about 500 personnel operates a mix of company supplied and bring-your-own crib kits. A facilities management company runs the catering and buys the kits. During the transition to crib kits, collection times were set for the beginning and end of the day, with each kit signed off when provided to full-time permanent personnel. A kit is supplied only once and people buy their own replacement items when required. Containers and coffee keep cups are sold in the retail store on site but crib bags and insulated water bottles are not stocked.

The dining hall offers reusable crockery and stainless steel cutlery. Wooden cutlery is provided with the kit. Fly-in-day crib provisions remain unchanged and use compliant single-use packaging.



The kit contains:

- Insulated crib bag
- 375mL microwave container
- Two 900mL rectangular microwave containers
- 350ml insulated stainless steel coffee cup with a plastic lid.

Glass containers are not permitted on site.

Infrastructure

- Crib room kitchenettes
- Washing stations near dining hall
- Washing stations in underground crib and changerooms.

Cost savings

Significant savings have been achieved by switching to reusable containers and the removal of single-use coffee cups from the bar and retail shop on site.

Roll out lead time and communications

Distribution of reusable containers began five months after initial implementation discussions began. Single-use plastic was removed from site early in 2024. Personnel were given four to five months' notice of the change. Site-wide communications included banners with links and QR codes in the catering area, communal areas and gym. The target date was postponed due to delays in the installation of washing stations.

Tips

- Set up a distribution site for personnel to collect crib kits over a few weeks when introducing crib kits
- Offer before and after work collections
- Ensure kit collection is recorded on an allocation list
- Provide food hygiene information
- Offer replacement containers and coffee keep cups for sale on site.

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](#).