

Questions And Answers

1. Who can take part in the **Collection Scheme**?

Any professional or end-user can take part. For practical and environmental reasons, we recommend grouping bags as much as possible to make the collection journeys as efficient as possible.

2. Who will collect the **Spirals**?

Each end-user is responsible for the removal of the spirals. When the bags are full, Rainbow will arrange collection and transport them for recycling in Hull.

3. Where can I get the **Rainbow Bulk Bags** from?

Contact us or your local Rainbow wholesaler to order your bags.

4. Which product can I put in the **Rainbow Bulk Bags**?

Any PVC spiral or PVC vole guard (these are the dark green vole guards) can go in the bag. Please do not put cans, litter or other products inside as these could have a negative impact for the recycling plant. For that reason, mixed bags will not be accepted.

5. How much will the bags **weigh**?

The bags will weigh 35-50 kgs depending on how efficiently they are filled.

6. How many **Spirals** fit in a bag?

We currently estimate about 600 – 700 spirals fit per bag, maybe more. At 7 spirals per meter of hedge, 1 bag would cover around 100m of hedging.

7. When will the **collection scheme run**?

For collections of 6-15 bags, the scheme runs from April – September, outside of the planting season. However, for collection of over 15 bags, the scheme will run all year long

8. When is the best time to **remove spirals**?

We recommend removing hedge spirals between September and March when hedge plants are bare of leaves and the bird nesting season has finished.

9. What does Rainbow do with the **recycled material**?

The recycled materials will be collected, shredded and if needed, washed. Depending on the quality, they may be immediately usable as regrind to process into new spirals at Rainbow, processed further into pellets, or used as in-fill for window frames.

As Rainbow use 100% recycled materials, we have a local network of recycling partners that we can rely on to find the best possible outlet for each waste material.

10. What share of the Spirals can be **recycled**?

PVC is one of the most recyclable polymers in the world (up to 9 times). For that reason, a high rate can generally be recycled.

Even in cases where the spiral has lost some of its properties, it can still be useful for some applications with a higher "wall thickness requirement" such as a window frame or a thick PVC pipe, which can use lower grade PVC as an in-fill.

As our factory has been active in recycling for over 25 years, we have a wide network of partners that can provide a suitable outlet. In cases where further recycling isn't possible, the waste materials can still be used to turn into energy.

11. What will my spiral be **recycled into**?

There are various options. PVC that has retained most of its characteristics (e.g., memory, flexibility) can be recycled into a Rainbow Tree Spiral or a Rainbow Tree Tie. PVC is one of the most used polymers and recyclates can also be used by other factories that manufacture pipes, cables, window frames, automotive interiors, seat coverings, fashion and footwear from PVC.

12. Why does my local recycler **not accept PVC Spirals**?

It could be that your local recycler is focused on household waste applications (e.g., PP, PET). PVC is mainly used in industrial applications. When different types of plastics are mixed, they become hard to separate and recycle again. Many recyclers will therefore specialize in certain types of plastic in order to maximize recycling rates.

13. How do I get **started**?

Order bags by contacting us or your local Rainbow wholesaler. Bulk bags will be despatched within 1 week from order placement. Any questions, please contact us on 01482 616861 and we will happily guide you through the process.

