

CONTAINERS FOR FOOD STORAGE

Code Section: 4-101 Multiuse

Materials that are used in the construction of UTENSILS and FOOD-CONTACT SURFACES of EQUIPMENT may not allow the migration of deleterious substances or impart colors, odors, or tastes to FOOD and under normal use conditions shall be:

- Safe, durable
- Corrosion-resistant, nonabsorbent
- Sufficient in weight and thickness to withstand repeated warewashing
- Finished to have a smooth, easily cleanable surface
- Resistant to pitting, chipping, crazing, scratching, scoring, distortion, and composition

Examples of Approved Food Storage Containers

- Containers whose packaging states they are food grade
- Bags that are food grade (ie. Ziploc Bags)
- Smooth, durable, and easily cleanable containers.

Examples of Food Storage Containers that are Not Approved

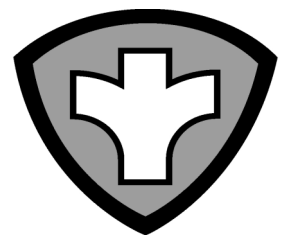
- Grocery bags
- Cracked or damaged containers
- Porous containers
- Containers with rough surfaces
- Containers originally used to store chemicals
- Containers with rough surfaces

Grocery Bags Used for Storage

- Grocery bags are not approved for food storage. Grocery bags are not constructed of durable materials, are not designed to be cooled or frozen, and may contaminate food products. The inks used on the grocery bags are also not food grade and may contaminate food products.
- Another concern is the re-use of grocery bags that have been previously been used to carry other items. The concern being the potential for cross-contamination from raw animal products. Packages of raw animal products may be contaminated on the outside and that contamination may stay on the grocery bags.
- If grocery bags are observed being used for storage during a routine inspection, and the food is stored in contact with the bags, it will be considered a **Critical Violation** for the potential for cross contamination.



- Once marked, the establishment will have to provide food grade containers and/or bags by the next routine inspection.
- Failure to provide food grade containers on the next routine inspection will result in the voluntary destruction of all food products that are stored in contact with grocery bags.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

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