

Package Deal

Meet Mr. Carter, a café owner who wants your help to decide how he can limit his cafe's impact on the environment while still attracting customers and making a profit. First, help him determine the costs of reusable items vs. single-use foodservice packaging:

Part A. The info on reusable items:

- Initial cost for reusable dishes, silverware, and cups: \$3,000
- Initial cost for shelves, racks or dollies to store reusable items: \$5,000
- Initial cost of an industrial dishwashing machine: \$5,000
- Monthly cost to replace broken, discarded, or stolen items: \$200
- Cost per month to hire a part-time employee to run the dishwasher/put away dishes: \$1,000
- Monthly water and electricity bills (for heating water and using the dishwasher): \$200

Add it up for Mr. Carter.

His total initial investment: \$ _____

His total monthly cost: \$ _____

The info on single-use packaging:

- Monthly cost to purchase recyclable or compostable foodservice packaging: \$5,000
- Additional monthly waste removal and recycling or composting costs due to the single-use packaging: \$300

Total monthly cost of single-use packaging: \$ _____

Part B. Here are some things Mr. Carter is thinking about to make his café a success and limit his impact on the environment.

- He estimates that many of his customers will get their food and beverages “to go.”
- He likes the idea of putting his logo on to-go packaging as a way of promoting his café.
- He is afraid that if he uses single-use foodservice packaging, his customers will think he does not care about the environment.
- He is interested in adding a composting program to collect food scraps, and maybe even packaging.
- He wants to be sure his café is a sanitary place.
- He is wondering whether he should allow customers to bring in their own reusable mugs or packages.

What advice would you give Mr. Carter? What choices do you think he should make? Explain below and on the back:



Learn more about foodservice packaging at www.fpi.org



FOODSERVICE PACKAGING INSTITUTE®

