

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J8QKy1nh5Ek&t=13s>



Today we're going to explore the dark side of these seemingly harmless materials that have become an everyday part of our lives. Join me as we uncover the devastating impact 1) \_\_\_\_\_ have on our environment and the beautiful creatures we share this planet with. First, let's understand what single-use plastics are. They are products designed to be used only once before they are thrown away or 2) \_\_\_\_\_. Think of items like plastic straws, water bottles, cutlery and grocery bags. Although they seem convenient, they come with a heavy environmental cost. The production of single-use plastics begins with the extraction of 3) \_\_\_\_\_, such as oil and natural gas. These raw materials are then processed to create various types of plastic resins. The resins are molded into the plastic products we use daily, consuming a considerable amount of energy and generating 4) \_\_\_\_\_ in the process. The production of single-use plastics is energy intensive, releasing large amounts of 5) \_\_\_\_\_ into the atmosphere. These emissions contribute to climate change, further exacerbating the problem. Disposing of single-use plastics is no easy feat. Many plastics end up in 6) \_\_\_\_\_, where they can leach harmful chemicals into the ground. Others are incinerated, releasing toxic pollutants into the air. A significant amount of plastic waste also finds its way into our oceans, threatening marine life and ecosystems. Plastics do not 7) \_\_\_\_\_ quickly. Some types of plastic can take hundreds of years to break down, persisting in the environment and causing harm to wildlife and ecosystems for generations. Animals can become entangled in plastic waste or mistake it for food, leading to injury or death. 8) \_\_\_\_\_, tiny plastic particles, have also been found in the food chain, posing potential risks to human health. The 9) \_\_\_\_\_ of single-use plastics is undeniable. It's time for us to reconsider our reliance on these products and find sustainable alternatives. By reducing our plastic consumption and supporting 10) \_\_\_\_\_ initiatives, we can help protect our planet for future generations. Let's make a change together. Start by sharing this video and raising awareness about the harm of single-use plastics.



## In praise of plastic

Wherever you are, you're likely to be surrounded by objects made of some kind of plastic material. There are many types of plastic, each one **(0)** ..... for a particular use. Thin, flexible plastic is good for making objects such as bags, whereas thick, hard plastic is a **(17)** ..... material for making functional objects, and has been used to make very **(18)** ..... pieces of furniture.

SUIT

USE

ATTRACT

Although plastic has a **(19)** ..... for being cheap and disposable, in the hands of a good **(20)** ..... , it can be used to make objects of great beauty. As well as offering **(21)** ..... high quality at a low price, plastic can take almost any shape, colour or consistency.

REPUTE

DESIGN

EXTREME

Plastic can also be seen as an environmentally friendly **(22)** ..... of material. It can be used in place of wood and other materials that are in short supply in their **(23)** ..... state, and it is also very hard-wearing. A good plastic chair, for example, could last you a lifetime and when you no longer wanted it, then it would probably be possible to **(24)** ..... the material.

CHOOSE

NATURE

CYCLE