

# Business Cost Impacts from disposable food service items

The cost breakdown\* of disposable food service ware items used for typical to-go meals, based on case studies of *ReThink Disposable* certified food businesses

Café Coffee To-Go meal packaging:	
ITEM	COST
16 oz. Hot Cup	\$0.06
Hot Cup Lid	\$0.04
Sleeve	\$0.03
Lid plug/stirrer	\$0.03
3 Sugar Packets	\$0.03
2 Creamers	\$0.08
<b>TOTAL COST: \$0.27</b>	

Taqueria Meal To-Go meal packaging:	
ITEM	COST
Plastic Bag	\$0.01
Foil	\$0.02
Paper Bag for chips	\$0.02
3 Plastic Sauce Cups for salsa	\$0.06
3 Plastic Sauce Cup Lid	\$0.06
6 Napkins	\$0.01
16 oz. Cold Cup	\$0.05
Cold Cup Lid	\$0.01
Straw	\$0.01
<b>TOTAL COST: \$0.25</b>	

Chinese Food To-Go meal packaging:	
ITEM	COST
Plastic Bag	\$0.01
2 Paper Boxes	\$0.25
2 Large Plastic Clamshells	\$0.38
4 Condiment Packets	\$0.10
6 Napkins	\$0.01
Wooden Chopsticks	\$0.03
Plastic Fork, Knife, Spoon	\$0.03
Sauce Cup	\$0.02
Sauce Cup Lid	\$0.02
<b>TOTAL COST: \$0.85</b>	

Hamburger/Fries To-Go meal packaging:	
ITEM	COST
Plastic/Paper Bag	\$0.01
6 Napkins	\$0.01
5 Condiment Packets	\$0.13
8x8x3 Fiber Clamshell for Hamburger	\$0.23
6x6x3 Fiber Clamshell for Fries	\$0.13
16 oz. Cold Cup	\$0.05
Cold Cup Lid	\$0.01
Straws	\$0.01
<b>TOTAL COST: \$0.58</b>	

Greek Food Meal To-Go meal packaging:	
ITEM	COST
Plastic Bag	\$0.01
6x6x3 Fiber Clamshell	\$0.13
Large Plastic Clamshell	\$0.19
Small Plastic Clamshell	\$0.10
3 Sauce Cups	\$0.06
3 Sauce Cup Lids	\$0.06
6 Napkins	\$0.01
Foil	\$0.02
Food Wrap	\$0.01
16 oz. Cold Cup	\$0.05
Cold Cup Lid	\$0.01
Straw	\$0.01
Fork, Knife, Spoon Packet	\$0.03
<b>TOTAL COST: \$0.69</b>	



\*Costs of individual items rounded to the nearest whole cent.

# Net Cost Impact\* of switching from disposable to reusable food ware items for dine-in

Numbers are based on case studies of *ReThink Disposable* certified food businesses.

## J&J Hawaiian invested \$557 to replace:

- Disposable Paper Food Clamshells with Reusable Plates & Bowls
- Disposable Paper Food Trays with Reusable Baskets
- Disposable Plastic Utensils with Silverware
- Disposable Wooden Chopsticks with Reusable Plastic Chopsticks
- Disposable Plastic Water & Paper Soda Cups with Reusable Glasses
- Disposable Plastic Sauce Cups & Lids with Reusable Sauce Cups

**ANNUAL NET COST SAVINGS:**  
**\$20,517**



## Kirk's Steakburgers invested \$220 to replace:

- Disposable Paper Trays with Reusable Baskets
- Disposable Paper Soda Cups with Reusable Cups
- Disposable Plastic Water Cups with Reusable Cups

**ANNUAL NET COST SAVINGS:**  
**\$3,981**



## New York Pizza invested \$170 to replace:

- Disposable Paper Plates with Reusable Metal Pizza Trays
- Disposable Plastic Utensils with Reusable Silverware
- Disposable Plastic Water Cups with Reusable Glasses

**ANNUAL NET COST SAVINGS:**  
**\$3,043**

## Rene Rose invested \$636 to replace:

- Disposable Plastic Plates with Reusable Plates
- Disposable Plastic Bowls with Reusable Bowls
- Disposable Plastic Sauce Cups & Lids with Reusable Sauce Cups
- Disposable Plastic Water Cups with Reusable Glasses

**ANNUAL NET COST SAVINGS:**  
**\$22,122**



## Shish Grill invested \$80 to replace:

- Disposable Foam Cups for soda and water with Reusable Glasses
- Disposable Plastic Sauce Cups with Reusable Sauce Cups

**ANNUAL NET COST SAVINGS:**  
**\$974**

*\*Net Cost Impact takes into account any upfront and ongoing costs associated with the purchase and care of reusable items and capital improvements needed to carry out ReThink Disposable's recommendations. Net cost savings are based on avoided disposable foodware purchases.*

*NOTE: With the exception of Kirk's Steakburgers, the above restaurants had no mechanized dishwashing.*