

# 18 SANITARY WARE



Sanitary ware is commonly made of ceramic materials that are cast, cut, dried and fired into a range of bathroom items including baths, shower trays, toilets, sinks, basins, pedestals, bidets and cisterns. They are made in various colours, styles, shapes and sizes, depending on the specification required or materials available. They are of varying quality, strength and finish depending on their expected function and architectural finish.

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## WASTE STREAMS

### DISPOSAL

The landfilling of sanitary ware should always be avoided unless they are heavily contaminated.

### RECOVERY

There are no recovery options for sanitary ware.

### RECYCLE

Sanitary ware can be crushed and mixed with other hard and inert materials for recycling when not contaminated and where markets exist for them as feedstock in new products or used as sub-base layers in construction.

### RECLAIM

Sanitary ware in good condition, uncontaminated and of value may be set aside for reuse. There is a strong and high-value market for reclaimed period sanitary ware, especially those with architectural or ornamental value.

## USAGE & PROBABLE LOCATIONS

Sanitary ware is used for human sanitation and cleanliness. They are commonly located in houses, offices and all manner of buildings used by people. They are associated with bathrooms, washrooms, cloakrooms, en-suites and changing rooms.

## PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

PPE requirements indicated are for guidance purposes only. DRIDS has identified the PPE that is mandatory on all demolition projects and ones that may be required subject to site specific Risk Assessment & Method Statement (RAMS).



## REMOVAL, SEGREGATION & STORAGE

Sanitary ware that are destined for reuse should be removed, cleaned of mortar, segregated and stored carefully and safely, to ensure their integrity and good condition. They should be stacked on timber pallets and bound with soft materials and cling film to prevent chips, cracks and breakage. Preferably they should be stored inside a building or under cover before removal from site, even though they are robust against inclement weather. Sanitary ware that are destined for recycling should have contaminants,

fixtures and fittings removed before crushing to suit the quality protocol for recycled aggregates. Crushed materials should be screened and stored in piles. Sanitary ware destined for landfill should be placed in the mixed waste skip.

## TOOLS

Hammer, crowbar, jemmy bar, chisels, screwdrivers, bolster chisel, spanners, 360 plant and attachments and screens for crushed materials.

## FIXTURES, FITTINGS & CONNECTIONS

Sanitary ware is commonly fixed in place on brackets, with screws, wooden plugs, nuts and bolts, metal straps, mortar, screed or other binding agent. Some sanitary ware require no fixings, they stand in place on feet or other platform. They may be connected to water and drainage systems, so care should be taken to shut off or block these outlets when removing items. Taps, mixer sets, handles, flushing systems, shower heads, pipework, drain fixtures and associated wall mounts may also be of value or will need separating from the units before recycling. Sanitary ware may be connected to grey water and black water systems.

## HEALTH & SAFETY

**Subject to task-specific Risk Assessment & Method Statement (RAMS).** Wear gloves and face mask when handling sanitary ware, crushed materials or bathroom ironmongery to prevent irritation, cuts and abrasion. Use eye protection when using hand tools. Limit hand, arm and whole body vibration when using impact tools. Only use 360 plant and attachments or screeners if appropriately trained. Wash hands before eating or drinking.

## FURTHER READING

Reclaimed Products Guide  
Reclaimed Bathrooms  
Reclaimed Sanitary Ware Online  
Aggregate Quality Protocols  
Recycling Ceramics

## TRAINING

Manual Handling  
Safe Use of Hand Tools  
Safe Use of 360 Plant and Attachments