

Plastic Straw - a possible lifecycle

1. Raw Materials

Polypropylene from propylene gas.

2. Manufacturing

→ Extracted and refined. Might also use colourants and plasticisers.

3. Packaging & Transportation

Bulk packed in plastic cellophane and cardboard boxes. Transported in lorries.

↙ Massive amount of energy used

↘ Using more fossil fuels

4. Retail

Sold in cellophane plastic bags with cardboard top.

↗ Sticky price labels

5. Use

Once, for about 10 minutes whilst drink was drunk.

↘ Not even needed, given automatically

6. End of Life

→ Thrown into bin along with cup - will end up in landfill or perhaps in sea if drunk on beach and dropped.

