# ON THE ROAD TO CIRCULARITY

End-of-life Vehicles

## ELV Plastics Recycling

**When your old car cannot take you places anymore, it becomes an ELV. The automotive sector is a source of valuable materials that can be recycled into new products.**

### HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

### 1. COLLECTION

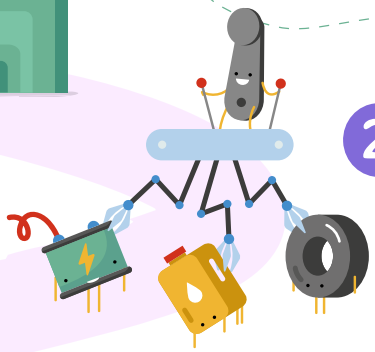
You can take your car to specific collection points for ELVs at the end of its useful life.

In the EU, specialised collection points are in place for ELV.


The most common polymers recycled in the automotive sector are polypropylene (PP), acrylonitrile butadiene styrene (ABS), and polyethylene (PE).

### 2. DEPOLLUTION AND REMOVAL OF DANGEROUS PARTS

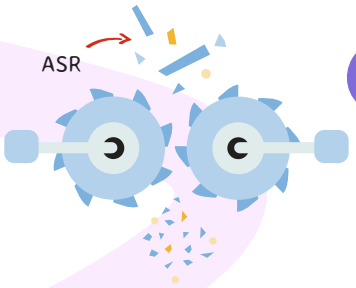
Before the car can be shredded, batteries, fluids and tires must be removed.



### 3. SHREDDING

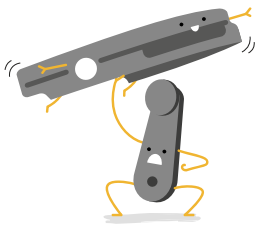
The remaining parts of the car are shredded into little pieces to reprocess the material more easily. Ferrous and non-ferrous metals are removed via magnetic, eddy-current or density separation.

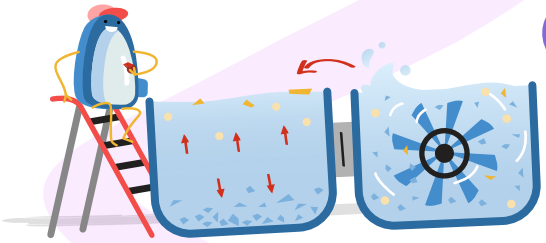
The output is called automotive shredder residue (ASR). It contains plastics and materials like rubber or foam.




### 4. GRINDING

Just like grinding coffee, ASR is reduced to very little pieces called flakes to ease the melting stage or 'extrusion'.



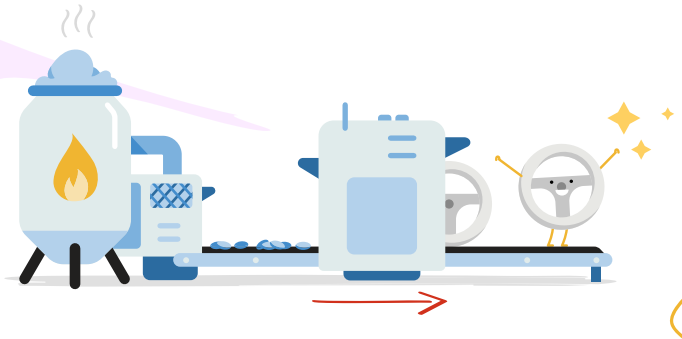


### 5. WASHING & DENSITY SEPARATION

Flakes are washed to remove residues such as dirt. They pass through various tanks where materials sink or float depending on their density and are separated by plastic type.

### 6. EXTRUSION

After reaching the highest purity and removing residues, ELV flakes are melted and shaped into small pellets of recycled plastic. These are now ready to become new products in the automotive sector and beyond!



PLASTICS RECYCLERS EUROPE

**The recycling of end-of-life vehicles can improve with design-for-recycling practices, that is, making vehicles easy to recycle from the start.**