

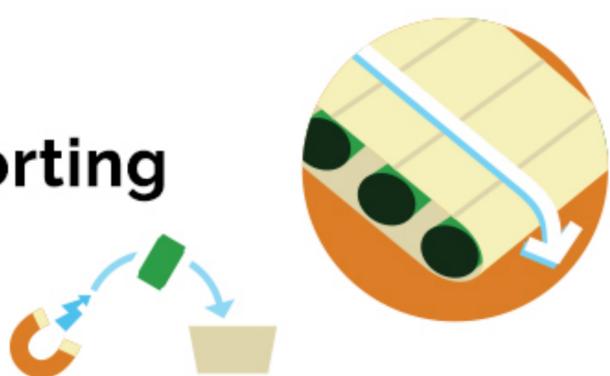


1
Collection



Aluminum is collected at curbside, workplace and schools, public space recycling bins, beverage container redemption as well as drop-off and metal reclamation centers.

2
Sorting



As material moves along the conveyor belt — at the materials recovery facility (MRF) aluminum cans are “pushed away” by a reverse magnet called an eddy current, which “shoots” the aluminum products into a catch-bin.

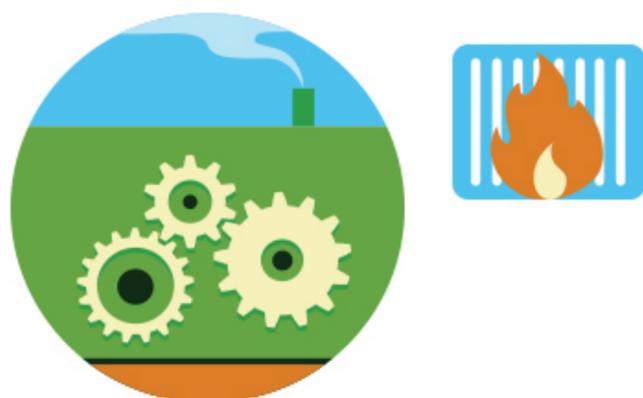
3
Processing

Cans come into the recycling process center crushed and in bales or stacks. The crushed cans are shredded into pieces the size of a walnut. The shreds, moving along a conveyor belt, are screened to get any non-aluminum materials out and then passed through “hot air” to remove any paint or lacquer.



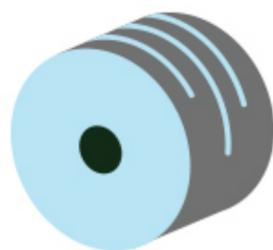
4
Converting

The aluminum shreds are fed into a furnace where they become molten metal and poured into a mold. Once cooled, this new “brick” or “ingot” of aluminum weighs 36,000 pounds. Guess how many used cans it took to make this new ingot? 1.5 million!



5
Manufacturing

The brick or ingot of aluminum is heated just enough so it can be rolled into a coil. The coil is approximately 9 miles in length. Manufacturers can then take this coil to make new cans and lids.



**I became an
aluminum can!**



**KEEP AMERICA
BEAUTIFUL**

**I want
to be**