

Anatomy of a Plastic Bottle

FINISH The plastic that forms the opening of a container and is shaped to accommodate a specific closure.

BEAD Also known as a transfer bead, it provides a surface by which the preform is suspended while it is reheated and blown into a bottle.

NECK The constricted part of a bottle that lies above the shoulder and below the finish.

SHOULDER The part of a container between the main body and the neck which is usually sloped.

BODY The principal part of a container, usually the largest and widest part of the bottle.

LABEL PANEL The area of the container body where a label or screen printing can be applied. Some bottles feature an indented label panel, which is used to prevent scuffing of the labels.

HEEL The part of the bottle where the body begins to curve into the base.

BASE The very bottom of the container which includes the **PUSH-UP**. The **PUSH-UP** is the concave region that provides stability. The base is often marked with a recycling code and deco lugs or registration features which are used to orient a bottle during filling and labeling.

