

Kenco Rich Paper Refill: decant it the day it arrives

From the teas.co.uk wiki

Kenco Rich Paper Refill: decant it the day it arrives, in summary: The same dark Kenco Rich coffee in a 150g paper pouch instead of glass. Tip it into a dry screw-lid jar the day it arrives, keep the spoon dry and drink each mug while it is hot.

Last reviewed by the teas.co.uk team in September 2026.

A refill assumes you already own the jar: you are buying coffee, not another container. Kenco moved its refills to paper in 2024, and the one habit that makes the format work is decanting straight away.

Same Rich, lighter packaging

Inside the pouch is the same Rich as the 190g jar. The published label lists instant coffee at 90 percent and roast and ground coffee at 10 percent, and names none of the 14 major allergens. It is the dark half of the Kenco pair: heavy in the body, forward in bitterness, and toasted, even slightly smoky, on the nose. It is caffeinated, and the word Rich describes the roast rather than the [caffeine](#).

The pouch is the part that changes. Kenco moved its refills to paper in 2024 and puts the saving at 97 percent less packaging per gram of coffee than its 200g glass jar. The trade is plain enough: far less packaging comes home, but the pack cannot look after the coffee once it is open, which is why the jar you already own still matters.

Decanting without losing the coffee

Soluble coffee draws moisture out of the air. Once the pouch is open, every day it spends folded over in a cupboard lets in more damp, and damp granules cake together, dull in aroma and dissolve patchily. A screw-topped glass jar shuts that out far better than paper can. So wash and thoroughly dry the old jar, then tip the whole 150g in on the day the refill arrives.

Aroma is what a damp pouch takes first. A dark roast's smell is its strongest suit, deep and a little smoky, and it fades quickest from granules left in an open pack, so decanting is what keeps it. After that, keep the spoon dry every time: one wet spoon dipped back in is enough to turn the top layer into a crust.

Drink it hot, and measure it level

Rich is less forgiving of a slow drinker than a mild coffee is. Dark roasts finish dry and bitter, and the bitterness sharpens as the coffee cools, so a mug left on the side while you do something else turns harsh

where Smooth would only turn dull. Make it when you have time to drink it, and choose a smaller mug over a larger one you will abandon halfway.

Our own estimate is roughly 83 mugs from the pouch at a level teaspoon of about 1.8g in a 200ml cup; a heavier hand brings that down quickly. For more strength, reach for the spoon, but add a little at a time, because extra Rich brings bitterness faster than depth. Let the kettle rest briefly after boiling, since scalding water makes a dark roast taste burnt.

The packs we stock

- [Kenco Rich Instant Coffee Paper Refill, 150g](#) (barcode 8711000599297)

What the label says

The published ingredient list for Kenco Rich Instant Coffee Paper Refill, 150g names none of the 14 major allergens. Read the refill pack itself before buying, as Kenco may revise the Rich recipe and allergen advice.

Ingredients, as published: Instant coffee at 90%, roast and ground coffee at 10%.

Ingredient and nutrition information for this product, as published on the manufacturer's label. Keep the refill label: it has the final say.

What to eat with it

- [McVitie's Digestives Dark Chocolate Biscuits, 433g](#): Dark [chocolate](#) shares the bitter edge of a dark roast, and the digestive base keeps the pairing from turning heavy.
- [McVitie's Milk Chocolate Digestives Biscuits, 266g](#): Milk chocolate softens the dry finish of a black mug of Rich.
- [Border Butterscotch Crunch Organic Biscuits, 135g](#): Butterscotch sweetness is a good foil for a strong, bitter coffee.
- [McVitie's Digestives Seriously Chocolatey Biscuits, 250g](#): For the black coffee drinker who wants the biscuit to do all the sweet work.

Elsewhere in the Kenco range

- [Kenco Classic Latte Instant Coffee, 20 Sachets](#)
- [Kenco Decaf Instant Coffee, 190g](#)
- [Kenco Gold Indulgence Instant Coffee, 190g](#)
- [Kenco Iced Hot Salted Caramel Latte Instant Coffee, 20 Sachets](#)
- [Kenco Iced Hot Vanilla Latte Instant Coffee, 8 Sachets](#)
- [Kenco Latte Instant Coffee Sachets, 8 Sachets 130.4g](#)

The full range is on the [Kenco brand page](#).

FAQ

Do I need to decant the Kenco Rich refill? Yes, ideally on the day it arrives. A folded paper pouch lets damp in, and damp instant cakes and loses its aroma.

Why does Kenco Rich taste harsher as it cools? A dark roast finishes dry and bitter, and that bitterness grows as the mug cools. Drink it hot, or make a smaller mug.

Is the refill the same coffee as the Kenco Rich jar? Yes. It is the same Rich with the same published ingredients, sold as 150g in paper rather than 190g in glass.

Does Rich have more caffeine than Smooth? Rich names a darker roast and heavier body, not a caffeine level. For a stronger-tasting cup, use a little more coffee.

Curator's note: Rich is best drunk hot. Left to go cold, Rich turns into a different and much harsher coffee, and that is the one habit worth changing for it. Lee, teas.co.uk, Tunbridge Wells.

In short: Kenco Rich Paper Refill: decant it the day it arrives

Field	Detail
Brand	Kenco
Packs we stock	150g
Category	Instant Coffee
Allergens (as published)	In Kenco's published ingredients for the Rich refill, the 14 major allergens are absent.
Caffeine	caffeinated
Store	Decanted into a dry screw-lid jar
Drink it	Hot, in a mug you will finish
Best with	A dark chocolate digestive

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