# Reuse – the creative reuse of things, visualization, and restoration of their usefulness – is possible for everyone!

#### **ECOLOGY LV** (Latvia)

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# How to give things a second chance?

Find new uses for things

In order to reduce both the consumption of raw materials and the amount of waste, as well as the impact on the environment, various initiatives are being implemented in many places that promote the transition to a circular economy. This means that instead of throwing away things that you no longer use yourself, you give them to someone who may find them valuable. This is especially true for clothing, which currently makes up a large part of the world's waste and which cannot all be recycled.

Improve the visual appearance of objects / things

Repurposing old furniture is a great way to save money, as well as give a second life to existing objects. DIY (Do It Yourself) projects not only allow you to personalize your interior, but also provide satisfaction with the result. In addition, with creativity and a little effort, old furniture can acquire a completely new look and functionality.

Change the functional use of things - create new things from old ones or create added value to things yourself

# How to find new uses for things?

For clothing, shoes, household items, furniture (provided that the items are of good quality and clean):

Give them to other users privately - relatives, neighbors, friends, etc.;

Give them back in exchange for points or donate them to charity, such as the Red Cross;

Sell them at flea markets in person or online on the Internet; Participate in or organize a charity market involving the community (village, neighborhood, etc.) and donate or invest the proceeds in achieving goals important to the community, etc.





### Improve the visual appearance of objects/things:

#### For furniture:

The easiest and often most effective way to transform old furniture is to repaint it;

Changing the fabric can completely change the look and comfort of the furniture;

Small additions can make a big difference – new handles and legs – by adding modern metal handles to a cabinet or choosing vintage style handles to give the furniture an antique character. You can also install higher legs to make the furniture look lighter and more modern;

Decorative elements – small accents such as fabric applications, stickers, different fabrics or artwork can give the furniture a creative and individual look;

Decoupage on wooden surfaces – use special napkins or paper motifs to cover the surface of the furniture with interesting patterns and designs.











#### For clothing:

If you accidentally tear your jacket - stick a decorative sticker on it!

A fallen button can be easily sewn back on!

You can also attach a heel to your favorite wool sock © or sew a felt foot on it and you will have sock slippers!













### **Interior improvements:**

An old flower pot can be made attractive by decoupaging it, painting it, or covering it with pebbles, shards, etc.













# Making the exact same thing again!

From candle scraps – pour a new candle

(Collect wax from several old candles, melt in a water bath, add a new wick and place in a small jar, cup or metal container)









# Change the functional use of things

**Ideas:** 

Transform empty jars or bottles into candle holders!













We crochet new things from plastic bags – a coaster, a shopping bag, a doormat, etc.!















# From old clothes and shoes:

- toys
- pillow covers
- environmental design items, etc.













From old furniture:

We make a computer desk from an old sewing machine

You can make a new environmental object from old chairs











# What to do if there are leftovers from food?

Made too much food?

- Invite friends over!
- Treat your neighbors!
- Portion out your food so you can reheat it for the next meal!

Save leftover vegetables for stock – use a box or bag to store leftovers, put it in the freezer, and use it.

Steamed, roasted, or grilled vegetables can be used for a creamy soup. Heat them with vegetable or chicken stock and add cream or coconut milk. Blend the soup and add seasonings to taste.

A leftover slice of bread can easily be turned into croutons for a salad, used as an ingredient for meatballs, or as a topping for French toast.

You can use cold pasta for a salad, noodle soup, or fried spicy noodles.

Check to see if anyone in the area has any animals that would enjoy eating leftovers.









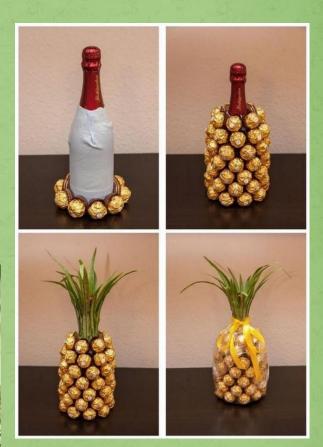
# You bought something in bulk because it's cheaper, but the stock will last a couple of years?

# Make a gift!

Almond bars with seeds - a gift, a snack or a quick breakfast? - these will suit all occasions and situations.











# Practical lesson - make a gift

### Teddy bear made from a duster









### DIY Teddy Bear Towel







# Thank you for your attention!





