

Reduce, reuse, recycle

Reducing, reusing and recycling things is one of the best ways to save energy and save money!



Recycling

Recycling works by changing used products back into their raw state and making something new out of them.

This new product might be the same thing, or it might be something different. For example, a recycled aluminium can could be made into another can or it could even be made into the metal part of a plane wing!

Things that can be recycled

- Aluminium cans
- Glass
- Paper and card
- Aerosol cans
- Plastic bottles and some packaging
- Yoghurt pots
- Batteries
- Clothes, shoes and textiles
- Printer cartridges
- T.V and computers
- White goods (fridges, freezers)

Most councils provide recycling bins free of charge. These are then collected and emptied for you weekly. There are also lots of recycling centres where you can take all your recycle items and sort them into the correct bins.

Remember that things that can't be recycled at a recycling centre can still be reused by you, if you can find another use for them instead of throwing them away.



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Reduce, reuse, recycle cont'd

Reduce and Reuse

Other than recycling, reducing use and reusing things are very good ways of being more sustainable. Think how often you use things in your home and see how you can reduce their use. So for example, have showers instead of baths and hand wash your dirty dishes instead of using the dishwasher. By reducing the amount of household electricity you use, you will save money, but more importantly, help to save energy.

Look at the things you throw away and think about how they can be reused. This is important if the item cannot be taken to your local recycle bank. Lots of items in our homes can be used for something else.

- Old clean socks can be used as dusters.
- Keep plastic carrier bags and reuse them the next time you go shopping.
- Old jars or plastic pots can be used for storage.
- Give things that are in a good condition, but that you no longer use, to local charities rather than throwing them away.

What other ways can you reduce, reuse and recycle?

Did you know?

- Four recycled glass bottles could save enough energy to power a computer for 1 hour 45 minutes.
- Two recycled tins could power a television set for a whole evening.