



Textile Recycling

When you can no longer repurpose your old clothes into pajamas, it may be time to send them off to be recycled into something new. While you can't recycle textiles through your normal curbside pickup, you can mail them in or drop them off at participating textile recycling locations. Make sure to clean and dry all textiles before recycling them though, textiles that are dirty could contaminate other donations and result in the entire load being wasted and sent to a landfill.

Reduce textile waste by using your existing clothes and other materials as long as you can and buying items that are sustainable and will last for a long time. Another great way to reduce textile waste is to buy used and buy less overall. Fast fashion is a recent trend that mass produces trendy clothing designs at a low cost to consumers, however, these items are generally cheaply made and don't last very long, resulting in more waste.

Reuse clothes and other textiles that are ripped, stained, too small, or just no longer wanted by making a t-shirt quilt, fabric twine, or even throw pillow covers! You can also use them for crafts or to make rags. Gently used textiles can be donated at most thrift stores such as Goodwill and Salvation Army. Old towels, blankets, and other similar items may be donated to local animal and homeless shelters.

Recycle the rest through mail in or drop off programs. Some individual clothing and shoe brands recycle their products, such as Patagonia, North Face, and Nike. Visit their websites for more information. You can bring all used clothing and textiles (sheets, towels, curtains, etc.) to any H&M store for recycling. You can even donate bras to organizations like Free the Girl, you can mail donations in or drop them off at Hanesbrands located at Tanger Outlet Malls.

Find more textile donation programs and locations at www.reimaginetrash.org/material/clothing-textiles