

Share, Borrow, or Buy Used

Why we care

Most Americans agree that our society is too materialistic. We worry that people live beyond their means, and that our children are over-commercialized. Indeed, if everyone on Earth consumed at the same rate as the average American, we'd need four additional planets to supply us with resources. All this consumption means increased greenhouse gas emissions and waste. Americans throw away 45% more trash than Canadians and 100% more than Swedes.

Simple, positive change

Sharing, borrowing, and buying used are all easy ways to reduce our ecological footprint and still maintain our quality of life. Use the public library, tool libraries (in N, NE and SE Portland), and rental stores to borrow or rent items you don't need to own.

Following are easy-to-find used items:

- Clothing – resale, consignment, and thrift shops
- Books, magazines, and music – Powell's, Title Wave Books, Everyday Music, Music Millennium
- Bicycles – Community Cycling Center, City Bikes
- Sporting equipment – Play it Again Sports, Next Adventure
- Building materials – ReBuilding Center, Habitat for Humanity's ReStore
- Building hardware and lighting – Hippo Hardware, Rejuvenation, Salvage Works
- Furniture – Consignment Northwest, Consignment Gallery, and Star's Antique Mall
- Office Furniture – City Liquidators
- Computers – Computer Renaissance, Free Geek
- Arts, crafts and home project supplies – SCRAP

Need to find a specific item? Try the following before buying new:

- Thrift stores (for a list of stores go to http://www.magicyellow.com/category/Thrift_Shops/Portland_OR.html)
- Antique shops
- Pawnshops
- Rummage sales
- Garage and estate sales
- Auctions – *The Oregonian* classified, #567
- Craigslist