

WHAT'S THE STITCH?

Know the difference between textiles and how to save them from being wasted!

What are textiles made from?

Natural materials

Made from plant fibres that are taken from stems or leaves (like cotton) or animal fibres that are made from hair or wool (such as fleece).

Synthetic materials

Made from oil and plastic using a number of chemicals and treatments to make materials such as nylon and polyester.

What is the difference between these materials?

Textiles made from natural materials **can** break down naturally after they have been wasted, while synthetic materials **cannot** and can create more waste. The more environmentally-friendly option is to use textiles made from natural materials, and avoid using textiles made from synthetic materials as much as possible.

How do I dispose of a textile if...

It is in GOOD condition

If it is **clean** and **still good to use**, you can:

pass it onto a friend or family member, donate it to a second-hand store, or give it to an animal shelter.

It is in BAD condition

If it is **torn** or **damaged**, you can:

cut it up and use it as a reusable cleaning cloth, donate it to your

local mechanic to use as rags, or get creative!

Can I recycle my textiles?

Textiles cannot be put in your recycling bin, but you can re-purpose them through donating them to a second-hand shop or passing them onto a friend if they are in good condition. If the textile is in bad condition and unsuitable to reuse, it should be put in your general waste bin.





