

# Waste free *home*

Discover the freedom you gain and the money you save when owning less stuff and caring well for the things that you do own. Sustainability starts with your consumer choices and is not limited to your daily grocery shop.

## Quality *pays off*

Buy high quality durable stuff with a long warranty and spare parts available for repair. What costs you more initially will save you money in the end and tread lightly on resources and the environment. Care for your possessions to ensure longevity. Browse op shops and garage sales for bargains, hire tools instead of buying new and get inspired by the endless opportunities of up-cycling.



*Pallets, rags, old tyres, cans or bottles are great resources for useful and decorative up-cycled assets. The only limit is your imagination.*

## Simplify your *wardrobe*

Go treasure hunting for clothes in second hand shops and donate unwanted items to charities or organise a clothes swap. Be ruthless on fit. If it is already tight when you try it on you are unlikely to wear it. You can also take it to the tailor for a better fit, and to get torn pieces fixed. After all, consider learning a few simple sewing tricks. Reuse worn out shirts as cleaning rags.



## Thoughtful *presents*

Instead of buying another tea set for your friend, start a culture of giving experiences. This can include vouchers for tourist experiences, fancy meals, classes or workshops, annual passes for museums and attractions, and subscriptions to online magazines. Those memories will last much longer than the value of a physical present. Alternatively, give home-made cards or condiments as a hostess gift. Consider wrapping your present in a nice cloth instead of gift-wrap that you can reuse and swap around between your friends.



## Less is *more*

Evaluate how many items of a certain type you really need. You are unlikely to use more than one or two towels, sheets, plates, shoes, bags etc. per person at any given time. Donating your surplus of dishes and household equipment will free your cupboards and give you less stuff to maintain.

## Entertainment *tips*



Download digital media instead of buying books, DVDs, CDs etc. and re-discover your local library. Use rechargeable batteries for remote controls or just try to live without TV for a while (you will gain so much time!).

**Handy hint:** If you compost your food scraps and recycle what you can, you will reduce your landfill contribution and can say goodbye to bin liners since all the yucky stuff is taken care of.

*A dive course is a present with no expiry date – the memories last a life time. For smaller budgets you could even just plan a cooking afternoon with your best friend.*