



(https://collectively.org/en/)

FASHION (HTTPS://COLLECTIVELY.ORG/EN/TOPIC/FASHION/)

TECH (HTTPS://COLLECTIVELY.ORG/EN/TOPIC/TECH/)

FOOD (HTTPS://COLLECTIVELY.ORG/EN/TOPIC/FOOD/)

SEX (HTTPS://COLLECTIVELY.ORG/EN/TOPIC/SEX/)

DESIGN (HTTPS://COLLECTIVELY.ORG/EN/TOPIC/DESIGN/)

ART (HTTPS://COLLECTIVELY.ORG/EN/TOPIC/ART/)

CULTURE (HTTPS://COLLECTIVELY.ORG/EN/TOPIC/CULTURE/)

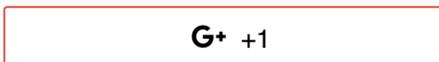
OPINION (HTTPS://COLLECTIVELY.ORG/EN/TOPIC/OPINION/)

VIDEO (HTTPS://COLLECTIVELY.ORG/EN/TOPIC/VIDEO/)

9 upcycled fashion ideas that are totally wrong... but totally work

Vikki Knowles (https://collectively.org/en/contributor/vikki-knowles/)

FASHION (https://collectively.org/en/topic/fashion/) | FASHION (https://collectively.org/en/topic/fashion/) | UPCYCLING (https://collectively.org/en/topic/upcycling/)



(http://www.facebook.com/sh... (https://twitter.com/share? (https://plus.google.com/share? u=https%3A%2Fcollectively.org%2Fen%2Ftopic%2Ffashion%2Fupcycling%2F9-upcycled-fashion-ideas-are-technically-insane-but-totally-work%2F) ... and everything from trashpile to high style. It's uber resourceful, rescues what are technically insane-but-totally-work%2F) ... wear or own. But we've tracked down the stuff covering the fine line between WTF and sweet genius. As it turns out, bullets, used pants and tents are all good ingredients for funky-up clobber.

Firehose = killer (non-leather) tote

(https://collectively.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Fire-hose-3.jpg)

Photo: Elvis & Cresse

Hose before bros

If you thought that fire hoses should be left in the capable hands of firemen and women, you'd be missing out on a whole load of arm-candy. That's right, you don't just throw it over your neck like a faux-fur scarf; Elvis & Cresse (http://elvisandkresse.com/) gives retired fire hoses a new lease of life in everything from phone cases and wallets to totes and belts. Basically, you can totally kit out in heroic material that would otherwise find its way to landfill.

Ring-pulls = Chain-mail accessories

(https://collectively.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/bottletop-edited.jpg)

Photo: Creative Commons / Bottletop

Pop of the tops

When you're enjoying a cool can of soda (aka 'pop', if you're in the UK and are 11 years old), it's unlikely that you think much about that aluminum ring-pull past the satisfying sttttt sound it makes. Ahhh. But what about wearing a whole load of them on your shoulder? What the...? Well, it seems to work for fashion firm and charity Bottletop (http://bottletop.org/). As the name might suggest, their handbags and other accessories are adorned with upcycled metal tabs. And this isn't some 'trashy' ghetto image; this is luxury gear, yo.

Discarded bras = Tim Burton's fantasy wedding dress

(https://collectively.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Bra-ra-ra1.jpg)

Photo: Pixabay / David Williams

Fashion faux-bras?

Traditionally, having your undergarments on show was considered a serious wardrobe faux pas, but in recent years, a little bit of bra strap on display has become kind of chic. Now, some designers are getting it out there in all its frilly pride. Designer Julia Triston (http://www.juliatriston.com/) gathered underwear (yup, worn and otherwise) from friends, family, the public, even celebs, to create a series of knicker dresses and bunting. She's also created some fab bra-ra dresses, celebrating boob-wear in all its lacy glory.

Bloomers and panties = well, this:

(<https://collectively.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/antoine.jpg>)

Knickers with a twist

Similarly, designer Antonie Peters (<http://www.antoinepeters.com/OTHER-PROJECTS>) collected as many undergarments as possible and used every bit to transform the everyday into something entirely new.

Tents = awesome rainwear

(<https://collectively.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/tent.jpg>)

Off-the-peg jackets

Feel like your tents are destined to live in your parents' garage – save for one week a year in the peak of the summer season? Now you can wear them anytime you like! WITHiNTENT (<http://www.withintent.co.uk/>) gathers tents left at festivals and hand-makes them in Hackney into coats, bags and even umbrellas. Thousands of tents, and other camping equipment, are left at music festivals every year. Those water-resistant, nylon legends will be a great transition piece in the autumn. Forget trench coats, this season it's all about the tent.

Fishing nets = decent skateboard

(<https://collectively.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/fishnet.jpg>)

Photo: Lynn Wallis Creative Commons / Bureo

Gnarly old fisherman?

One day it's scouring the sea for that night's fish supper, the next it's doing a 180 kickflip. Who'd have thought you wouldn't be heckled out of the skate park using a board made from discarded fishing nets? Bureo's (<http://www.bureoskateboards.com/>) dream was to make skateboards for plastic-free oceans, and they've done just that, pulling off a successful Kickstarter in 2014. Every board is made from around 30 square feet of fishing nets. And the brand has sunnies on the way, too.

That bit of a bike you turn with the pedals = neat clock

(<https://collectively.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/tread-and-pedals.jpg>)

Credit: Umberto Brayj / Tread and Pedals

Riding on the wall

If you're like me and a lot of other young renters out there, your bike lives inside your teeny flat, since you don't have a lovely garage or cute little shed to put it in. But why not take that one step further and stick your two wheels onto the wall...? Okay, don't actually, but let Tread And Pedals (<http://www.treadandpedals.com.au/>) do it for you with their ship-shape clocks made from upcycled bicycle cogs and wheels. The Aussie duo also make cufflinks should you have a wedding on the cards, jewellery for Chrimbo dos and so-called stocking stuffers for the notoriously difficult to buy for (hello, star-shaped cycle chain ornament).

Lethal ammunition = pretty jewelry

(<https://collectively.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/bullets.jpg>)

Credit: John Spade Creative Commons / Bullet Designs

Drop-dead gorgeous

Guns and bullets ain't everyone's Tuesday afternoon cup of tea, but if you don't have murderous rampage on your mind, how about putting bullets in your ears? Apparently Bullet Designs, which include earrings, necklaces, even keyrings and ink pens are super popular with guys and girls alike. The firm recycles fired bullets into bling that – who knows – might just keep the muggers at bay.

Shipping containers = homes of the future

(<https://collectively.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/containers.jpg>)

Credit: Ingrid Taylar / Fin Fahey Creative Commons

Crate idea?

They may have been freight transporters in their previous life, but now, they're touted as the new low-cost solution for housing us humans. For the ultimate in up-cycled living, how about setting up camp (or shop, there's plenty of those too) in an old shipping container? Some say that being in a space-squeezed environment is better for singletons, but could be cosy for couples too. After all, if it's not insulated properly it can get pretty chilly in there. Plus, some folk are using multiple containers to create an entire house.

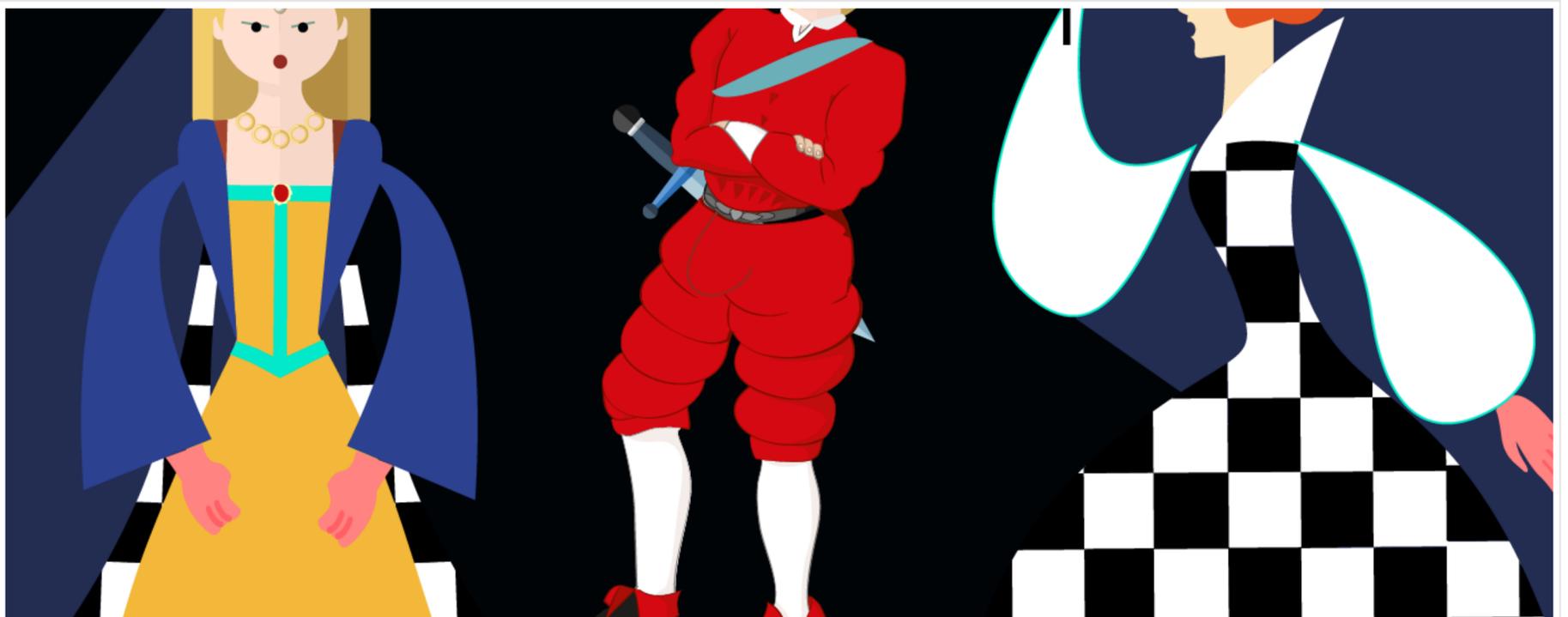
With so many organisations finding cool and unique ways to give unloved items a new lease of life, I'm sold. Just don't go trying to donate your knickers to people unless they expressly ask.

Like this post on Facebook

CONNECT TO

[f \(https://www.facebook.com/collectively\)](https://www.facebook.com/collectively) [🐦 \(https://twitter.com/_collectively\)](https://twitter.com/_collectively)
[▶ \(https://www.youtube.com/user/collectively\)](https://www.youtube.com/user/collectively) [t \(http://collectively.tumblr.com/\)](http://collectively.tumblr.com/)
[📷 \(http://instagram.com/_collectively\)](http://instagram.com/_collectively) [📡 \(http://collectively.org/en/rss\)](http://collectively.org/en/rss) [✉](#)

MOST POPULAR



CULTURE ([HTTPS://COLLECTIVELY.ORG/EN/CATEGORY/CULTURE/](https://collectively.org/en/category/culture/))

ANNA BARBER ([HTTPS://COLLECTIVELY.ORG/EN/CONTRIBUTOR/ANNA-BARBER/](https://collectively.org/en/contributor/anna-barber/))

Jun 10, 2016

Shakespeare: The Complete Wenchies (<https://collectively.org/en/article/shakespeare-the-complete-wenchies/>)

SEX ([HTTPS://COLLECTIVELY.ORG/EN/CATEGORY/SEX/](https://collectively.org/en/category/sex/)) NICK LEFTLEY ([HTTPS://COLLECTIVELY.ORG/EN/CONTRIBUTOR/NICK-LEFTLEY/](https://collectively.org/en/contributor/nick-leftley/))
Apr 28, 2016

How to enjoy 100% guilt-free sex (<https://collectively.org/en/article/how-to-enjoy-a-100-guilt-free-fuck/>)

OPINION ([HTTPS://COLLECTIVELY.ORG/EN/CATEGORY/OPINION/](https://collectively.org/en/category/opinion/))
ANDY HILL ([HTTPS://COLLECTIVELY.ORG/EN/CONTRIBUTOR/ANDY-HILL/](https://collectively.org/en/contributor/andy-hill/))
Jun 03, 2016

Dear Misogynist Catcallers: an open letter from someone who understands your pain (<https://collectively.org/en/article/dear-misogynist-catcallers-an-open-letter-from-someone-who-understands-your-pain/>)

GENDER ([HTTPS://COLLECTIVELY.ORG/EN/CATEGORY/GENDER/](https://collectively.org/en/category/gender/))

ALEX BROOK LYNN ([HTTPS://COLLECTIVELY.ORG/EN/CONTRIBUTOR/ALEX-BROOK-LYNN/](https://collectively.org/en/contributor/alex-brook-lynn/))

Jun 05, 2015

I Wore Period Panties To Find Out If This Invention Really Is Revolutionizing Feminine Hygiene (<https://collectively.org/en/article/period-panties-thinx/>)

[comments powered by Disqus \(http://disqus.com\)](#)

[_\(<https://collectively.org/en/>\)](https://collectively.org/en/)

[About \(/en/about\)](/en/about)

[Partners \(/en/partners\)](/en/partners)

[Terms of Use \(/en/terms\)](/en/terms)

[Privacy Policy \(/en/privacy-policy\)](/en/privacy-policy)

[FAQs \(/en/faqs\)](/en/faqs)

Collectively website uses cookies. By continuing to browse the site you are agreeing to our use of cookies. For more details about cookies and how to manage them, see our [Privacy Policy](#).

Ok

[Privacy Policy \(https://collectively.org/en/privacy-policy/\)](https://collectively.org/en/privacy-policy/)

print