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RECYCLE 2 LITRE COOLDRINK BOTTLES



BACKGROUND

Waste management is an area where everyone can make a contribution to living lightly on the planet. An integrated approach to waste management deals with waste in several different ways, with the aim of reducing the amount of waste that ends up in landfills.

Where possible, re-use a product several times. If you cannot use it again, find someone who can.

- Glass and plastic bottles with deposits can be returned to shops for re-use.
- Wash and dry plastic bags for re-use.
- Re-use paper that has only been printed on one side.
- Staple together office paper that has been written on one side only, for scrap paper.
- Nursery schools make good use of the inside core of toilet rolls and paper towels, egg boxes, cereal boxes and jam jars.
- Post back refillable printer-cartridges to the manufacturer in the envelopes supplied.
- Charities welcome unwanted clothes, furniture, toys, books and magazines.
- Repair things rather than throw them away.
- Offer electrical devices in working condition to NGOs, charities or disadvantaged schools, before disposing of them.



This 'How To' was compiled by Michelle Craigie.

Recycling a 2 litre cooldrink bottle

There are many ways to recycle a 2 litre cooldrink bottle - here are three.

1. Plastic bag screw-on lid

Often in a household, goods such as rice, sugar and frozen vegetables, are bought in a plastic bag. Once you have filled your sugar bowl, how do you seal the top so that the sugar does not spill or the open bag of frozen vegetables does not fall over and spill into the deep freeze?

Step 1: Take a cooldrink bottle and carefully cut off the top section of the bottle, about 5 cm from the top of the lid.



Step 2: Unscrew the lid, and feed the open side of the sugar or frozen vegetables bag through the cut off section of the bottle, from the bottom side up through where the lid screws on. Fold about 2cm of the plastic over the lip of the bottle and then screw the lid back on. You now have a bag that won't spill its contents.



2. Mole-proof bulb planter

Step 1: Turn the bottle over and measure 12cm from the bottom and cut this section off carefully.

Step 2: If you have bulbs you need to plant in your garden, and don't want the moles to get to them, push this middle section into the ground, leaving about 1cm above the ground. Plant your bulb into this plastic tube. It will be mole proof.

3. Candle or pot plant holder

Step 1: Take the bottom section of the bottle and create a candle holder or pot plant holder. You can paint the container with paint that can be bought at any craft shop, or decoupage the outside to make it look special.

If you make a candle holder, you can put a handle on the top, by making a hole in either side of the bottle (directly opposite each other). Take a piece of fishing line or thin wire, thread some coloured beads through and secure onto the candle holder.



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