Suggested Collected Items

*From the website: https://www.onegreenplanet.org/lifestyle/home-items-you-can-reuse-over-and-over-again/

1. Glass Jars, Containers or Cans

Glass and metal are easily recycled, but why not cut down on excess packaging and waste by reusing them? Glass jars and old coffee canisters make great containers for bulk pantry items, desk organizers or bathroom containers. And there are a million ways to reuse mason jars beyond food canning — even many pasta sauce brands use jars that are ideal for food preservation. Got a lot of leftover narrow necked beer bottles? Make them into a set of drinking glasses! Or how about a wine rack, or display shelves out of coffee cans?

2. Gallon Jugs, Plastic Soda Bottles, Takeout and Other Plastic Containers

Beyond using jugs and bottles to store homemade natural cleaners, with a little modification, you can turn those plastic containers into useful household items like this <u>plastic bottle broom!</u> Make <u>bird feeders</u> out of old soda bottles, or food bins, shoe cubbies and dustpans/scoops out of <u>plastic jugs</u>. How about making reusable <u>self watering seed pots</u> or a <u>cell charging station</u> out of a shampoo bottle? And don't throw out the takeout containers! Many are sturdy, dishwasher safe and excellent for reuse in the kitchen.

3. Newspapers, Magazines, and Paper Bags

Over run by paper? There are lots of <u>great ways to re-purpose all the paper in your life</u>. Get creative and create amazing and useful woven <u>baskets</u> and <u>trays</u> out of <u>magazines</u> and <u>newspapers</u>. Recycle newspapers, grocery bags and magazines as wrapping paper. How about some compostable <u>seed pots</u>? Or <u>DIY envelopes</u> out of outdated calendar pages? And if you're really ambitious, make a gorgeous <u>wood-like flooring with paper bags</u>.

4. Clothes, Towels, and Bedding

Don't toss out old towels, clothes and bedding! Cut them up into washable cleaning rags! Or check out these excellent Pinterest ideas for ways to <u>upcycle old clothes</u> into new! Why not turn those torn t-shirts into beautiful <u>braided rugs</u>? If you've got sewing skills, turn old flannels into <u>resuseable dusters</u>.

5. Seeds

At the end of the growing season, let a couple of your veggies and flowers go to seed, collect the seeds and save them for next season for free! Here's <u>everything you need to know about harvesting and saving seeds</u> to reuse again and again!

6. Laundry Waste

If you use them, don't toss out those old dryer sheets! They make excellent dusting rags, especially for sucking up pet hair. They work great for scrubbing off soap scum and polishing chrome too! You can even make them into a <u>dress</u> if you're really determined. Collect the lint from the dryer to make <u>recycled paper</u> or <u>paper mache</u>, or even <u>compostable seed pots</u>.

7. Plastic Bags

When the box of cereal is empty, save the inner bag, wash, dry and cut to wrap sandwiches. Plastic bags can be used a pet waste bags, or trash bins, or you can reuse them at the grocery store. Better yet, upcycle those plastic bags into nice-looking, sturdy reusable grocery totes!

8. Bathroom Items

Save old toothbrushes to scrub hard to reach places, like grout and underneath the fixtures on faucets. Or clean old toothbrushes and reuse as eyebrow brushes, hair color applicators or for cleaning tools, electronics or other delicate or hard to clean items. Empty toothpaste tubes can be re-purposed as a funnel by cutting off the bottom, or as an frosting tube for icing cakes. Empty deodorant bottles are perfect for refilling with this <u>DIY Deodorant Recipe!</u>

9. Broken Dishes

Collect broken china to re-tile outdoor tables, <u>flower pots</u>, paths, or as a unique border for your garden. Use broken china to make a key fob or jewelry. Plant small plants in old stained coffee mugs.

10. Old Furniture

Refinish or repair rather than tossing old furniture. Re-purpose broken furniture or disassemble and reuse the wood. Hang drawers on the wall to create shelves, shadowboxes or bulletin boards.