**Something for the weekend....Action #28: Avoid sending textiles to landfill.**

*"Each year the British public throw away over a million tonnes of textiles, the vast majority of which could be used or recycled."* (Textile Recycling UK)

So what to do:

**REFUSE** fast fashion, cheap fabrics and soft furnishings.

....Invest better quality items that will last longer; find them second hand from charity shops and/or online via Marketplace, Ebay, Gumtree etc. And don't forget [Dorset Scrapstore](https://www.facebook.com/DorsetScrapstore/?ref=gs&__tn__=%2CdK-R-R&eid=ARBi-Xdxkj--1_ZriMyd_FFo7RlX1AMlMEFQIbu2nSbqwtpuBveJDl2-ZaOvSmUaICN1cCP06PengniY&fref=gs&dti=308664193075982&hc_location=group)!

...You maybe able to pick up freebies through groups such as [Sobo Recycle](https://www.facebook.com/groups/699718630361414/?ref=gs&fref=gs&dti=308664193075982&hc_location=group) and FREEUSE - Bournemouth Reuse Group.

**REUSE** and **REPURPOSE** what you have. Or offer unwanted items (clothes, fabric scraps, remnants, EVERYTHING) through places listed above.

Don't forget pre-schools, schools, day centres and other local community projects; textiles can be used in a wide range of ways for craft activities. Depending on what you have, given them a call and see if your stash can be of use:

...An old pair of curtains of yours could become someone else's shopping bag!

... A bundle of yarn collecting dust in another home could become your next crochet project!

...Tiny scraps or cut up tights could stuff handmade toys being prepared for plastic free presents!

...Remnants could be cut into strips and become a piece of woven wall art!

**REPAIR** items that need fixing up yourself or find a local tailor who can.

...Get more savvy with sewing through a local class - Haberdasherdo are starting up a variety of craft workshops; check out [Reuse Not Refuse Sewing Social - Re-Loved Garms](https://www.facebook.com/Reusenotrefusesewingsocial/?ref=gs&__tn__=%2CdK-R-R&eid=ARAyrTo-m8uyhmPH3JQz4fb06HVUlILJCSmru6JWcCg8tvAA4L9MaD6j3N6ICtd5Hr2F5KD5BiQceXT4&fref=gs&dti=308664193075982&hc_location=group) and the next [Bournemouth Repair Cafe](https://www.facebook.com/RepairCafeBH/?ref=gs&__tn__=%2CdK-R-R&eid=ARDx6NBUedQtsDvI5kDBMYIpZe7QuYXkv_PhMASaO3q3B_uXKdgF5vqJbPzW7BzR6hbuTz1uQVX70X2h&fref=gs&dti=308664193075982&hc_location=group).

And finally - **RECYCLE**.

...Set aside a collection box at home for textile items that are beyond

repair....curtains...clothes...bedding...all things textile. Ensure they are clean - then bag up and take to your nearest textile recycling point. In Southbourne, head to Woodside Road carpark (pictured) or find other local facilities via these links:

[https://www.bournemouth.gov.uk/binsrecycling/recyclingrecyclingcentres/NeighbourhoodRecyclingCentres.aspx](https://www.bournemouth.gov.uk/binsrecycling/recyclingrecyclingcentres/NeighbourhoodRecyclingCentres.aspx?fbclid=IwAR1qWpj3d0LwzEsLVm-2yTbRQC7KOZ2sjDmPPV2E7WVleUle7Z1uh8KQooc)

[https://www.recyclenow.com/what-to-do-with/clothing-textiles-0](https://www.recyclenow.com/what-to-do-with/clothing-textiles-0?fbclid=IwAR0GxIKoljrIXOmderWeKzXP4f3xZMVo3D9B1xVwNIsvzysdJ964Ye57svg)

Increasingly, high street stores such as h&m also accept clothing. Check with your local branch first.

Be sure to get the whole household involved if you live with others.

...Notice what builds up in your collection box; and be creative - for example, are there potential cleaning cloths in there?! (No sewing needed - just cut with pinking shears!).

But remember, any recycling should always be the last step (before the bin); it takes considerable amounts of energy to complete the process and few items can be infinitely recycled like aluminium and glass.

So there you have plenty options. All of which avoid textiles going into landfill. Be sure to follow them up (if you're not already of course) and spread the word. The more of us that **RETHINK** and change our habits, the greater the impact will be on reducing waste.