



# Summer

guide

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◀ This is the season when everything comes back to life and we're ready to get out there and enjoy the beautiful weather we've all been waiting for. And, summer is also a good time to find some inspiration and get creative! ▶

If you finished your spring cleaning and donating to Goodwill, now is the perfect time to shop our stores not only for the latest summer fashion, but also for things you can use around the home—and items you can use to create fun and artistic projects. With that in mind, this year's Living Amazing Summer Guide is all about recycling and upcycling! In this issue you'll see an introduction to our newest business venture, Goodwill E-cycle, and hopefully come away with a better understanding of what electronics you can donate to Goodwill. In addition, we'll introduce you to our 2017 Ultimate Upcycling Contest winners and learn the method and inspiration behind their winning projects.

And, as always, we have our resident Goodwill Experts, Merri Cvetan and Bjorn Nasett sharing their respective knowledge on home décor projects and the summer's hot fashion trends. Plus, new Goodwill Lifestyle Expert, Marques Clark, also shares his knowledge on what to wear to a job interview.

We also have more DIY fun and summer recipes, so get ready to go green this summer... and thank you for continuing to support our mission!



# hello SUMMER!

By Jamie Klinger-Krebs, interactive media coordinator for Goodwill



# SUMMER!

## d.i.y

Summer is a busy time for everyone. Graduations, weddings, and just trying to enjoy the short warm season here in the midwest takes every free minute. So, our DIY projects this season are both creative *and* easy!



# DIY Map Artwork

By Jessica Schoner, Interactive Media Coordinator for Goodwill

## Supplies needed:

- Picture frame
- Favorite quote/message
- Map
- X-ACTO knife
- Cutting board

I love using maps in my home décor! There's something very intriguing to me about maps; it could be the idea that one map can hold unlimited possibilities for adventure, or that they often mark the spots of special moments from years past. But before I go on a tangent with my quirky love of maps, let's use them for a craft!



For my travel-themed nursery, I wanted to add some of my own DIY touches to the décor. This world map art worked its way in perfectly to the space. I also created some fun garland for my walls too, but you'll have to stay tuned for that tutorial in the Fall Living Amazing Guide! I used a picture frame from Goodwill to help inspire the hues for the rest of the piece!





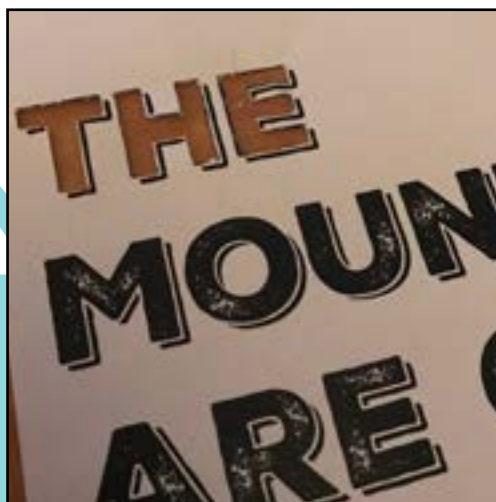
1.

1. Start by printing out your favorite quote or message on simple white paper. You can choose to print on colored paper if you have a color that fits well with your map and frame colors.
  - a. Keep in mind the size of frame you are working with when printing your quote. I selected a large block font, which allowed for easier cutting out of the letters. Any font that has a lot of script may pose a challenge!



2.

Place your printed quote on the cutting board and begin trimming out each of the letters using the X-ACTO knife. This is why it comes in handy to use block letters!



3.

If you are printing out your map, print it to the same size as the paper with your message on it. If you are using a real map, trim it to the size of your paper with the message on it.

4.

Place the paper with your message over the map, and slide into your frame!



# "What is it?"



By: Merri Cvetan, Home Decór Expert for Goodwill

I love the challenge of repurposing or upcycling an object. This month I found something very unusual. Can you guess what it is? It's a metal basket of sorts on a narrow stand with bent, hook-like prongs at the top. I love the graphic look of it and the shadows it creates.



It's a great conversation piece.

I used it in three different ways. Any of these would be a fabulous addition to a summer porch!







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©amazinggoodwill.com

— — one — —

First as a lamp shade. It has a steampunk look when paired with a vintage-style Edison light bulb. (Thomas Edison invented it in 1879, in case you didn't remember!)

— — two — —

Of course, it's perfect as a funky art installation.

I elevated it on an old stove pipe cover (bet you wouldn't have guessed what that was either!). Then I filled it up with random things that are important to me. I bought the little crown and number 77 in Paris. It's art I can change every time I redecorate.

©amazinggoodwill.com



©amazinggoodwill.com

— — three — —

Finally, almost everything works as a candle holder and this isn't any different. A cut crystal votive and candle will add atmosphere to any room.

*(Have you guessed what it was originally used for? It's an apple picker basket!)*

# SUMMER!

## trends

**Block heels, mix and match, ruffles...oh, my! There's something about the heat that brings out the flirty in all of us and this year's summer trends embrace it. Take a dive into the eclectic side of fashion and have a little fun!**





# Summer Trends

By Jessica Schoner, Interactive Media Coordinator for Goodwill

If we had to sum up our summer trends is one word it would be “eclectic.” Each of the season’s stand-out pieces has their own unique personalities! That means you can choose to incorporate one or all of them into your wardrobe and home décor. We also love that each trend is open for interpretation; there’s no specific way to wear it or decorate with it, so you can add your own taste to it! We can’t wait to see more of these trends popping up as the temperatures climb.

## clothing!

### Block Heels

Elevate your style this season with block heels! They give a mod feel to this staple accessory. You’ll find them in all colors and textures this summer. And let’s not forget about the comfort; that added width on the heel means you can rock these shoes from the office to a night out with the girls! Goodwill has an amazing selection of shoes year round - head to your nearest one to see if we have a pair of block heels waiting for you!

Photo: [www.bedazzlesafterdark.com](http://www.bedazzlesafterdark.com)

### 80s

We love to carry nostalgic, throwback pieces at Goodwill, so of course this trend has us all giddy inside! Bring out your inner “material girl,” or guy, with the ‘80s trend that’s hitting the shelves this summer! You’ll see an influx of metallic, one-shoulder dresses, neon leggings and more. To keep your ‘80s look updated, you may want to resist going too kitschy. Try pairing your neon leggings with a simple, complimentary summer tunic, or an equally bright, but fitted, blazer. Or, if you’re not quite ready for a full metallic top, look for one with metallic details on the shoulders.

Photo: [www.inspiredluv.com](http://www.inspiredluv.com)



### Mix and Match

Think color-clash, but in a really good way! This trend is definitely one to break you out of your style box. Its eclectic vibe has us pairing colors and patterns that we would have normally avoided. Try a floral skirt paired with colorful heels and a striped top. Or, rock an array of colorful accessories with your monochromatic office wear. There’s really no wrong way to pull this look off – simply pull together different pieces that speak to you! Don’t forget – Goodwill is a great place to stock up on mix-and-match items!

Photo: [www.latestfashiontrendssite.com](http://www.latestfashiontrendssite.com)



### Ruffles

Ruffle details are popping up in all areas of the fashion world this season. Before you shy away from what you may think is a “girly” trend, you’ll be happy to know that 2017’s ruffles have a little edge to them! That’s right; keep an eye out for ruffles done in leather to give them a punky, yet sophisticated feel. This season’s ruffles make a statement, so get ready to see them supersized on necklines, handbags and sleeves!

Photo: [www.lyst.com](http://www.lyst.com)





While summer's clothing trends were leaning toward brighter hues (hello '80s wear), home décor trends are all about jewel-tones! We can't get enough of the rich, earthy look of deep sapphire, smoky amethyst and intriguing emerald. These tones pair really well with different textures, especially leather and tweed, so they can easily transition their way into your current décor. Give your home that subtle richness by adding jewel-toned pillows or a throw blanket to your living room or bed. Your house guests will love how inviting the bold colors are!

Photo: [www.houzz.com](http://www.houzz.com)

## Nailhead Details

Years ago this home décor detail could be spotted on fabric headboards and other upholstered pieces. This summer, nailhead details have transitioned onto unexpected places, like lighting fixtures and dressers. We love the character that this subtle detail adds to a space. Even better... you can DIY your own nailhead décor! Head to Goodwill for a new-to-you lampshade, and add your own nailheads from the craft store to the border of it. Voila; trendsetter on a budget!



Photo: [www.marysherwoodlifestyles.com](http://www.marysherwoodlifestyles.com)



## Marble

Marble is one of those home décor additions that we're pretty sure never goes out of style. We love how it can stand the test of time, allowing you to transition other decorative pieces in and out of your space. If you haven't already added marble pieces to your home, you're in luck; this season is bringing you options galore! We suggest starting with detail pieces, like a collection of marble cutting boards or the trim along end tables. Give your home the same look without the cost, by using marble "wallpaper." Added to the top of coffee tables, you can give your home that rich look without breaking the bank!

## Woven Baskets

Stylish and functional; exactly what we want with home décor! Baskets are one of those essential home décor elements that we simply cannot live without. This season, you'll see them with a little DIY touch of paint. This look lends itself to the organic/natural look that is also very popular right now. Start by heading to Goodwill, where we have woven baskets galore! Then add your own touch of paint to help blend the look into your current home décor palette! Place a basket next to your coffee table to help organize magazines, or in your bathroom to hold spare hand towels for guests.



Photo: [www.wemadethishome.com](http://www.wemadethishome.com)



# The Lady In White



By: Bjorn Nasett, Fashion Expert for Goodwill

## A Goodwill Fashion Story

We put together three great looks featuring Goodwill items.

Like I always say, fashion isn't a price tag, it's an attitude, a feeling, a statement. We will let the photos speak for themselves.



Model: Neda Stevic  
Photography: Bjorn Nasett

Blue and white vintage hat \$2.99

White Banana Republic sheath dress \$6.99  
(new with tags)





white hot



White sequin sweater from Chico's \$6.99  
White vintage parachute pants \$4.99  
Sunglasses Proenza Schouler (Bjorn's)



DIY Projects & Crafts

Hot Style Tips & Trends

Cool Summer Eats

Goodwill is Green



# white hot

.....  
*All other jewelry from  
Goodwill ranging from \$1.99 to \$4.99*  
.....



White tuxedo shirt \$4.99  
Jeans from Neda  
Thin rhinestone belt (Bjorn's)



# What to *Wear to an interview*

by Shopping at Goodwill



Goodwill Lifestyle Expert, Marques J. Clark

Goodwill is THE go-to place to find interview attire.

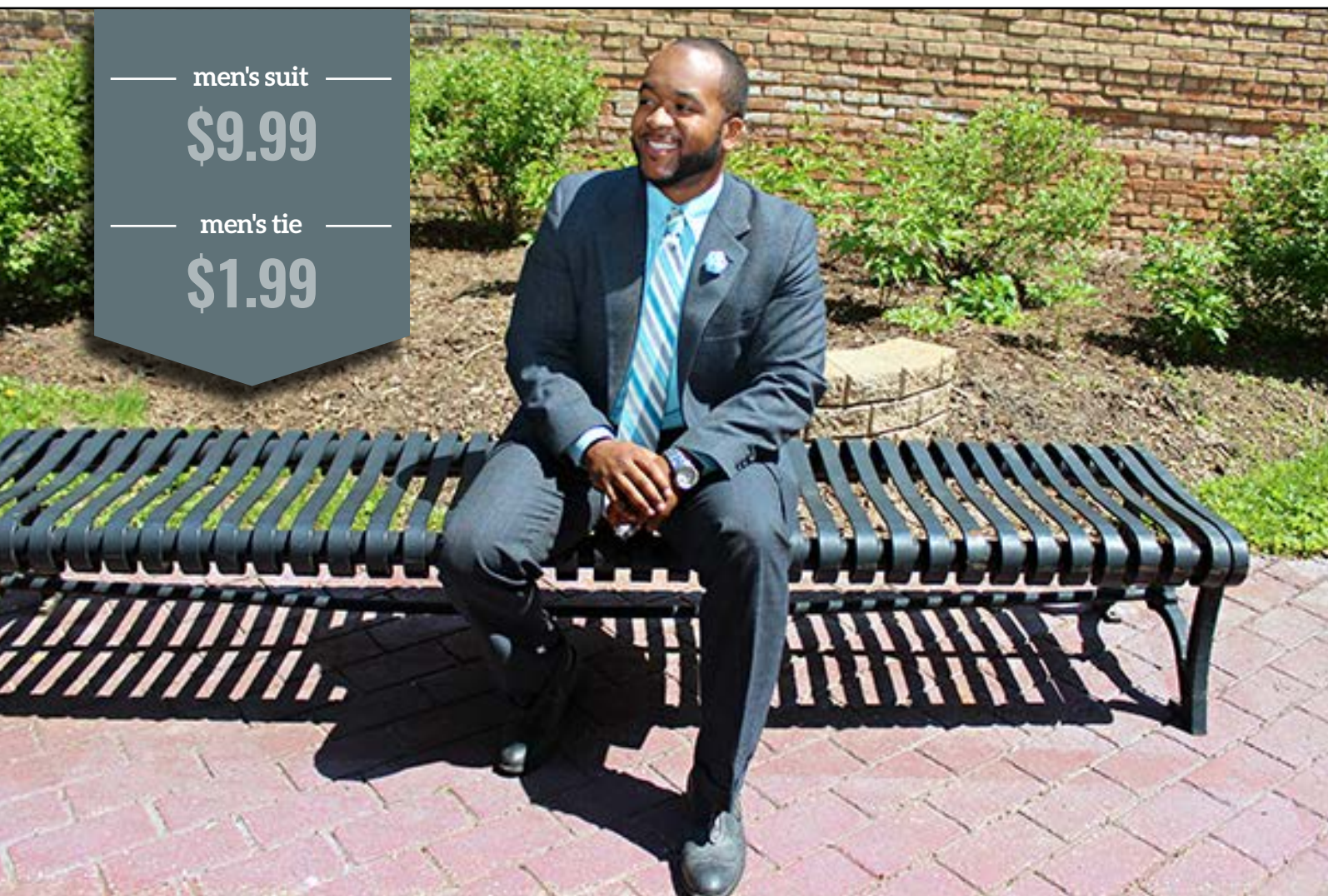
New items are placed on the sales floor every day, which means you can potentially find something different each time you visit one of Goodwill's many stores. Before an interview, I always visit Goodwill to find professional attire to wear. The average price of an interview outfit ranges from \$40-\$120. A good quality suit can start at \$300 and retail for up to \$800. I've used Goodwill to shop for my last three interviews and not only did I get the job, but I paid less than \$10 for suits that normally retail for \$400. Use the following tips to find your outfit at Goodwill for your next interview!

men's suit

**\$9.99**

men's tie

**\$1.99**





**1** Always wear business professional attire to an interview. The first impression you make on an employer is the most important one. You want that impression to be nothing less than professional. Men should always wear a suit and tie. Women have the option of wearing a suit, dress pants or a professional skirt. No dresses. Pay close attention to signs when shopping at Goodwill. Items are categorized by type so that you can easily find what you're looking for.

**2** Start by looking for dark-colored suits, pants or skirts (blue, black or grey) to wear to your interview. You can even liven up your outfit by choosing a bright-colored button-up shirt or blouse.

**3** Interview attire should always be clean and fitting. Employers pay attention to detail so any flaw in your outfit will draw their attention.

**4** Try everything on! This will save you time and will help you determine if you need any alterations done.

**5** Conservative, solid-colored shoes that are clean and polished should always be worn to an interview. Heels should be no more than 2 or 3 inches. Check out Goodwill's shoe section and keep an eye out for shoes that can be refurbished with a little shoe polish or some new laces.

**6** Accessories are acceptable to wear only if they complement your outfit. Stay away from flashy accessories and jewelry that could cause a distraction in an interview. Watches, bracelets, necklaces and earrings can all be found at Goodwill and they serve as a nice accent to your outfit.

**7** At most, have a light briefcase or portfolio for extra copies of your resume and note taking. Goodwill has an area specifically for bags and briefcases that is worth visiting.

**8** Once you have your outfit, evaluate your entire appearance and pay close attention to detail. Think about the image that you are portraying. Does your outfit match and look professional? Are your colors too bright? Remember, your first impression is the most important impression so make it count!



# SUMMER!

## eats

Summer isn't just for the grill. Show your slow cooker some love (and keep the heat out of the kitchen) with our versatile shredded chicken or roll up some sweet treats without cranking the oven. We even share a no-bake pizza that's always a hit at cookouts!





# Slow Cooker Shredded Chicken

By Kyla Mrazek, Marketing Projects Manager



*A slow-cooker is a great option in the summer when using the oven or stove would heat up the kitchen too much!*

We're all busy, aren't we? Why not make dinner simple with a recipe that is delicious and versatile. This slow cooker chicken is a go-to in our house for those really busy weeks, and I love that it helps me get a healthy, home cooked meal on the table in a flash! The chicken comes out juicy and delicious, and once you remove it from the slow cooker and shred it, the possibilities are endless! You can turn this chicken into a variety of dishes. Here are a few of our favorite ways to "upcycle" this delicious chicken into brand new meals:

## Slow Cooker Shredded Chicken

### Ingredients

2 to 3 pounds boneless chicken breasts  
1 packet powdered ranch dressing  
2 cups chicken stock or broth  
3 tablespoons olive oil  
Salt and pepper to taste

1. Layer chicken, powdered ranch, salt, pepper and oil in a slow cooker. Pour chicken stock over the chicken and cook on low for 6 to 8 hours.
2. Remove chicken from slow cooker and shred in a bowl. Put approximately 1 cup of the broth back into the chicken, enough to moisten.
3. Serve and enjoy!



### BBQ Chicken Pizza

Use your favorite pizza crust, and then add BBQ sauce as a base, and top with chicken, thinly sliced red onion and lots of shredded mozzarella, then bake.

### Chicken Pasta Bake

Cook rotini or farfalle to the package directions, then pour pasta, your favorite sauce and the shredded chicken, into an oven proof baking dish. Top with shredded mozzarella, and then bake at 350 degrees for 20 to 30 minutes until hot and bubbly. Top with shredded basil.



### BBQ Pulled Chicken Sandwiches

Add your favorite BBQ sauce, and then serve on rolls with baked beans, fries and slaw.



### Chicken Tacos

Warm the chicken and tortillas and serve with your favorite taco fixings, rice and beans.



### Quesadillas

Add chicken, finely diced bell peppers and shredded cheese inside two large flour tortillas, then toast in a pan until golden brown.

## No Bake Coconut Date Energy Balls

(source: <http://www.sweetphi.com/no-bake-coconut-date-energy-bites/>)

### Ingredients

- 1/3 cup cashews or almonds
- 1/3 cup dried cranberries
- 12 medjool dates, pits removed
- 1/2 cup coconut, shredded, divided
- 1 Tbs coconut oil
- 1 Tbs water

1. Put cashews or almonds in a food processor and pulsate for 20 seconds.
2. Add pitted dates, ¼ cup coconut flakes, ½ cup dried cranberries, 1 tbs coconut oil and water. Process for a minute or until the mixture comes together and no big nuts or dates remain.
3. With a tablespoon scoop or a spoon scoop out 1 tablespoon of the mixture and roll in between hands to form a ball.
4. Put remaining shredded coconut in a bowl, and then roll the ball in the coconut.
5. Place ball on lined baking sheet and refrigerate for an hour and then serve. Store in refrigerator.



## Hot Artichoke Cheese Spread

(source: <http://www.sweetphi.com/no-bake-coconut-date-energy-bites/>)

### Ingredients

- 14 oz artichoke hearts in can
- 2 cups shredded mozzarella
- 1 cup grated Parmesan
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- ½ to 1 tsp garlic powder

1. Cut artichokes into small pieces and mix with other ingredients in an oven-safe bowl.
2. Bake ½ hour covered at 325 degrees.
3. Uncover and bake for about 10 more minutes until bubbly.
4. Serve with pita chips or bread



## No Bake Peanut Butter Bars for a crowd

### Ingredients

- 4 cups graham cracker crumbs
- 1 cup butter, melted
- 1 1/2 cups sifted powdered sugar
- 12 oz package chocolate chips

1. Mix first four ingredients together well.
2. Press into 13"x9" jelly roll pan. Mixture will be dry but press across entire pan to edges.
3. Melt chocolate chips in microwave, 10-15 seconds at a time. Stir in between heating until smooth and pourable.
4. Pour over peanut butter mixture, spread to thin layer.
5. Refrigerate until chilled and firm. Cut and serve.





## Fresh and Crisp Veggie Pizza

(source: <https://www.pillsbury.com/recipes/easy-crescent-veggie-pizza/>)

My Mom makes this every summer for cookouts or parties and I look forward to it every year! She gets creative with it and will use whatever veggies she's in the mood for (or has in her fridge!). You can do the same. If you don't like tomatoes, use red peppers. Don't like broccoli? Use zucchini. You get the idea!

By Julie Wedel, Graphic Designer

### Ingredients

- 2 cans (8 oz each) Pillsbury™ refrigerated crescent dinner rolls or 2 cans (8 oz each) Pillsbury™ Place 'n Bake™ refrigerated crescent rounds or Pillsbury™ refrigerated Crescent Dough Sheet
  - 1 package (8 oz) cream cheese, softened
  - 1/2 cup sour cream
  - 1 teaspoon dried dill weed
  - 1/8 teaspoon garlic powder
  - 1/2 cup small fresh broccoli florets
  - 1/3 cup quartered cucumber slices
  - 1 plum (Roma) tomato, seeded, chopped
  - 1/4 cup shredded carrot
1. Heat oven to 375°F.
  2. If using crescent rolls: Unroll both cans of dough; separate dough into 4 long rectangles. In ungreased 15x10x1-inch pan, place dough; press in bottom and up sides to form crust. If using dough sheets: Unroll both cans of dough. In ungreased 15x10x1-inch pan, place dough; press in bottom and up sides to form crust.
  3. Bake 13 to 17 minutes or until golden brown. Cool completely, about 30 minutes.
  4. In small bowl, mix cream cheese, sour cream, dill and garlic powder until smooth. Spread over crust. Top with vegetables. Serve immediately, or cover and refrigerate 1 to 2 hours before serving. Cut into 8 rows by 4 rows.



# SUMMER!

## — is green —

**Goodwill is all about being green!**

**And here we show you some more ways of being green  
from recycling electronics to upcycling items  
you'll find in our stores.**





# Do you know WHERE YOUR ELECTRONICS ARE?

By Jamie Klinger-Krebs ,  
interactive media coordinator  
for Goodwill

## Here's the challenge:

Start in a room in your home, any room, and see how many unused and recyclable electronics you can find. When you're done there, head to another room and repeat the process. What you find might just amaze you (no pun intended).

Along with collecting gently-used clothing and other household items, which helps support the many great programs we have here at Goodwill, we've also expanded our business into electronics recycling with the introduction of Goodwill E-cycle. Simply put, e-cycling is the practice of recycling or reusing computers, computer components and other electronics like cell phones, tablets, e-readers, etc., rather than discarding them at the end of their life cycle. As you'll find noted on our [Goodwill E-cycle website](#), electronics waste (or e-waste) is the most rapidly growing segment of the municipal solid waste stream. With the rapid pace of technology, the life cycle of these electronics is getting shorter and shorter, creating more e-waste than ever before.

To put some of this information into perspective, the EPA estimates that by recycling one million laptops we have the potential to save the amount of energy equivalent to the electricity used by more than 3,500 U.S. homes in one year.

Tackling the growing e-waste problem has many benefits. For one, electronic waste contains many valuable and recoverable materials such as aluminum, copper, gold, silver, plastics, and ferrous metals. And, in order to conserve natural resources and the energy needed to produce new electronic equipment from other resources, electronic equipment can be refurbished, reused, and recycled instead of being tossed in a landfill. But, e-waste can also contain toxic and hazardous materials including mercury, lead, cadmium, beryllium, chromium, and chemical flame retardants, which have the potential to leak into our soil and water, which is another good reason to keep them out of landfills.

So now that you have the facts, let's get back to the challenge at hand!

For every one million cell phones we recycle, the EPA estimates that we can recover:

<b>35,000 Lbs.</b>	<b>772 Lbs.</b>	<b>75 Lbs.</b>	<b>33 Lbs.</b>
copper	silver	gold	palladium

Leading up to this article I decided to take a look around my home to see just how many unused and easily recyclable electronics I had laying around. Even I was astonished at what I found. Starting with the kitchen junk drawers and then moving on to the basement, my home office and my daughter's bedroom, I collected (and photographed) the following in literally twenty minutes or less:

## SEE WHAT YOU CAN COLLECT IN 20 MINUTES!



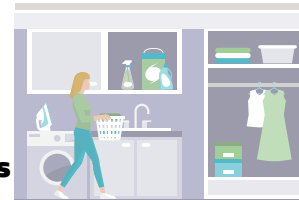
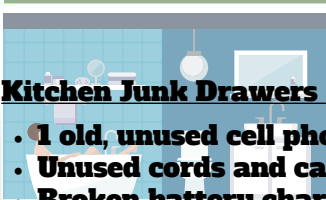
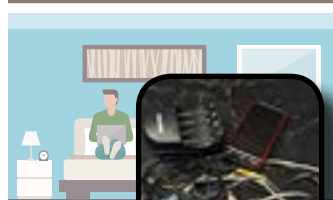
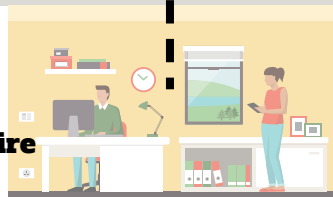
### Home Office

- 2 broken iPods
- 1 broken Kindle Fire
- 1 broken tablet



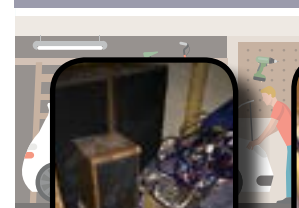
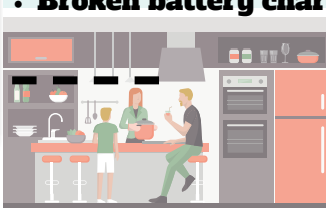
### Daughter's Room

- 1 CD player/radio



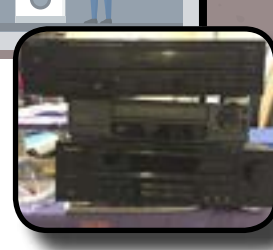
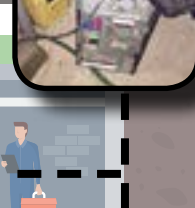
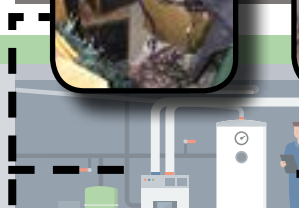
### Kitchen Junk Drawers

- 1 old, unused cell phone
- Unused cords and cables
- Broken battery charger



### Basement

- 2 old computer towers
- 2 old keyboards
- 1 ancient desktop scanner
- 1 ancient printer
- 1 old CD player
- 1 unused VHS player
- 1 unused stereo
- Lots of old (most likely not working) Christmas lights
- Old stereo speakers



After collecting all of these electronics, I loaded up the car and donated them at our Operation E-cycle Electronics Donation Drive held on May 20th at Miller Park. But, you can also donate your unused electronics at any of our Goodwill Store & Donation Centers in the southeastern Wisconsin and metropolitan Chicago territory and it'll make its way to our Goodwill E-cycle hub.

So, if you're looking for a simple challenge this summer that will help the environment, as well as keep your home a little less cluttered, give this one a try—you'll be glad you did.

Visit [GoodwillEcycle.com](http://GoodwillEcycle.com) to learn more about Goodwill's electronics recycling program.



# the ART OF

# Upcycling

By Jamie Klinger-Krebs,  
interactive media  
coordinator for Goodwill



## The definition of upcycling,

according to our good friends at Wikipedia, is to transform by-products, waste, materials, or useless, unwanted products into new materials of better quality or for better environmental value. At Goodwill, this is something we know a thing or two about with our “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle” philosophy, which shares our message of environmental sustainability. Our annual Ultimate Upcycling Contest is one way we bring this message to light.





Each spring we put out a call to our customers asking them to show us their skills in upcycling. The challenge is simple, purchase an item from Goodwill and use it to fabricate a completely different item with a completely different purpose, by being creative. Not to over-use our coin phrase, but we're always amazed at the artistic and useful entries we receive. As a nod to our most popular annual contest, and in continuation of our summer theme of recycling, we decided to do a quick Q & A with both the winner and runner-up of the 2017 Ultimate Upcycling Contest, as well as with some additional upcyclers who entered the contest with equally impressive and creative projects.

## 2017 Winner - Jody May - Portable Pet Feeder



*"This portable feeding station for pets was made using an old travel case, a broken dry eraser blackboard easel, and two melamine bowls. All of it was found at Goodwill! The bowls and washable platform lift to expose storage below - perfect for carrying food, drink, leashes, and anything else you might need to bring along for your furry friend. The case closes to create a perfect case to take along on your next adventure with your pet."*

*-Jody*

### How did you become interested in upcycling? .....

My parents taught me as I was growing up to be frugal. From hand-me-down clothes to thrift store shopping, they instilled in me the value of finding the most cost-effective ways to stay under budget. As an adult I began upcycling as a way to use my creativity to save money and bring new life to discarded items. When I began teaching, I needed stools for my classroom reading nook. I turned old dresser drawers into stools that not only stored books but were also the perfect height for my elementary students to sit on to enjoy a good book. Now I am a stay-at-home mom and my husband and I have fun looking for ways to upcycle items that are not only functional in our home but fun and creative as well. For example, our coffee table is an old suitcase and bottling crate that adds character to our family room but also provides function as storage for Wii games and our TV remotes. Our bathroom needed more storage so we took an old wooden military ammunition crate and added shelves inside. We hung it on our bathroom wall and it adds the perfect vintage charm to our décor. With every new project that we complete, my interest in upcycling only grows as I enjoy the satisfaction of affordably decorating my house with beautiful, one-of-a-kind, creative décor.

(continued)



## What was your motivation behind your winning project?

My motivation was very simple—I like old suitcases. They were made very sturdy and I love the vintage look. They are discarded because they don't have the modern convenience of extending handles and wheels. This makes them undesirable for lugging through the airport but perfect for finding at Goodwill and using for an upcycling project. This is my third upcycling project using suitcases. In addition to my Upcycling Contest entry, I also created a suitcase coffee table and a suitcase desk.

Once I found the train case at Goodwill, I had to come up with a project for it. I considered making it a child's padded stool but my kids are getting too big to use one the size of the train case. We have two dogs and they join us for an annual trip to South Dakota to visit family. Keeping them fed and watered on the road is a challenge. That gave me the idea! With the travel case I created, we can keep everything contained inside. As we stop at a rest area, I simply grab the case and I've got everything I need. Extra food and water are stored below the feeding platform. I just fill the bowls and their meal is ready. Their leash and bags for cleaning their mess are stored neatly underneath as well.

## Do you tend to find most of your upcycling supplies at Goodwill?

I do find much of my upcycling inspiration at Goodwill. Just walking the aisles, I find unique items that get my creative ideas flowing. I also get upcycling supplies from my own home. Before throwing something away that is broken beyond repair, I try to evaluate whether it can be repurposed into something else. We had an old player piano that was not able to be repaired. We painstakingly disassembled it and used the beautiful wood to create new items. My favorite is a chalkboard and towel rack made using the piano's upper front board.

I am so glad that people have donated their items to Goodwill because they no longer need them and this is the perfect opportunity for me to upcycle affordably.

## If you're an avid Goodwill shopper, what do you enjoy most about shopping at our stores?

If I need to buy something, I always check at Goodwill first before heading to a retail store. I might not always find what I'm looking for, but if I'm willing to be patient, I generally will. The thing that I enjoy most about shopping at Goodwill is the fact that you never know what you'll find. It's like a treasure hunt. I have found some fantastic treasures! It's always fun to receive a compliment about something I've bought at Goodwill. I love the expression of shock on the person's face when I tell them where I bought it!

**I love upcycling! My inspiration is a desire to use my creativity to make a discarded item useful and fun. Here is a list of some things I have upcycled:**

- Reader's Digest Condensed books into journals
- Picture frames into dry erase surfaces
- Cigar boxes into guitars, drums, or storage
- Sweaters into pillows
- Wool from sweaters or suits into felted projects
- Dishes into a jewelry catch-all
- Kitchen pots into container gardens
- Glassware into garden art
- Hymnal holder from an old church pew into a book holder
- Church pew into a bench
- Wooden crates into bookshelves/storage
- T-shirts into bags
- Book pages into origami cranes and garland
- Suitcases into a coffee table
- Suitcase and wooden crutches into a desk
- Candlesticks and plates into a raised serving pedestal
- Mason jars into light fixtures
- Leather scraps into jewelry and bookmarks
- Scrabble letters into word art
- IKEA storage and candlesticks into a library card catalog type storage container

- Jody



*From the baking racks down to the freezer sliding door, I created this children's play kitchen ENTIRELY from Goodwill materials. I purchased an old entertainment center and made it a little girl's dream. Goodwill has and always will be my go-to with all my creative ideas!"*

*- Taylor*

## How did you become interested in upcycling?

My interest in upcycling began when I was a child. My dad would bring home items he found when he was doing his route as a garbage man and I remember thinking, "I can make this into something." As years passed, I continued to seek out and use items that were no longer useful for someone and make them into something of my own, something personalized and eco-friendly.

## What was your motivation behind the play kitchen project?

I wanted to give a gift that couldn't be bought, something that would allow Sadie to create memories with for years to come. I wanted to put in the work, dedication, and time to add my own personal touch.

## Do you tend to find most of your upcycling supplies at Goodwill?

YES! Almost all my upcycling supplies come from Goodwill! If not, then from around my house or scraps.

## What other types of projects have you created, and what has been your inspiration for creating these projects?

All of my projects stemmed from items I bought at my local Goodwill. Some of my favorites include a chair made from belts, a superhero kids table, refinished a roll top desk, and a 6-unit laundry basket organizer.

## If you're an avid Goodwill shopper, what do you enjoy most about shopping at our stores?

Being an avid Goodwill shopper, I enjoy finding items that no one can replace. Items that other people made memories with, and now I can reuse and create something to carry on those memories along with making new ones!





# Lois Kinney – Cello Vase Music Flowers



*This cello shaped bottle has now become a vase. Old sheet music was used to make two different style flowers. Pieces of old jewelry adorn each flower. Sheet music was also rolled and tied with twine to put inside the bottle. This adds more musical flavor and hides the stems of the flowers. This is 100% made from Goodwill products! The vase project was made for a music room.*

*-Lois*

## How did you become interested in upcycling?

I love the creativeness in using something that is no longer needed and turning it into something else. It takes me a long time to go through the Goodwill store, as I am always visualizing something else, as I handle things.

## What was your motivation behind the project you entered?

My daughter has a music room in her home and I wanted to make something for it. This was a Christmas gift.

## Do you tend to find most of your upcycling supplies at Goodwill?

I get a tremendous amount of materials from Goodwill stores.

## What other types of projects have you created, and what has been your inspiration for creating these projects?

I have done many other projects. I have made flowers from old sewing pattern paper. I make necklace pendants by cutting out shapes from old patterned silver plated trays. I mosaic mirror frames and bowling balls using old plates. I chalk paint small pieces of furniture, picture frames, etc. I made a display for old hankies from an old wooden spoon holder. I love the process of transformation!!!

## If you're an avid Goodwill shopper, what do you enjoy most about shopping at our stores?

The thrill of the hunt keeps me as a regular customer. Things change in the store daily!!



# Erin Jadin – Upcycling Clothing Wedding Bouquet



*Picking up my materials at Goodwill meant I could experiment with color, texture, and pattern and not spend a lot of money. Discarded clothes to wedding bouquet - who would have guessed? The majority of my furniture is from thrift stores, and a good bit of my wardrobe too. Two things everyone knows about me are that I make jewelry and I love Goodwill. I once found a Hermes necklace and bracelet set at the Goodwill Store and Donation Center on Feerick. Sometimes I post them on Instagram at @trialanderrin.*

## How did you become interested in upcycling?

I've always had a knack for repurposing, starting with making furniture for my dollhouse when I was little. Then I got into jewelry making and realized I could find really unique materials in old pieces from Goodwill that I couldn't find at the bead store. Furnishing my own place with quality pieces on a budget really kept that spark alive for me. I don't think upcycling is something I'll ever give up.

## What was your motivation behind the project you entered in the Ultimate Upcycling Contest?

I made a similar bouquet for my sister-in-law, and I wanted to try something different this time. I thought using old clothes would allow for more variation in color and texture. And those rhinestone buttons have been screaming at me to be used in something pretty. I also wanted to do something that I created from what are essentially raw materials. I made each petal of each flower.

## What other types of projects have you created, and what has been your inspiration for creating these projects?

My entire house is an upcycling project! I love refinishing and reupholstering furniture, which I find

mostly at Goodwill and other thrift stores. I almost never look at a piece and picture it in its current state. I always wonder what else I can do. Can I change the legs? Add paint? Can I put a light fixture on that wooden telescope stand? Most of my jewelry that I've made is at least partly constructed from salvaged beads that I found at Goodwill.

## Do you tend to find most of your upcycling supplies at Goodwill?

YES. Outside of paint and some really specific hardware or findings, I get most of what I need at Goodwill. But sometimes I'll find something like a drawer pull, a set of hairpin legs, or some other interesting thing and decide that I'll build a project around it.

## If you're an avid Goodwill shopper, what do you enjoy most about shopping at our stores?

I feel like so much of what's available today is low quality and disposable. I'd rather buy an old hardwood table that needs a little work than a piece of cheap particle board furniture that probably costs more too. Everything I find is so unique and I think sometimes the things I find take me outside of my style comfort zone and challenge me to try something new.

