

Combat climate change – clean out your closet!



The constant demand and production of new goods is a major contributor to climate change. Many factories are powered by fossil fuels (coal, oil or gas), which create higher-than-normal levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Excessive CO2 creates a heat-trapping blanket around our planet, putting thousands of animal species at risk of extinction. By cleaning out your closet at home, you can combat factory demand by assessing what you truly need, and finding better things to do with the rest. Here are some steps to get started:

1. Go through your clothing items and establish what you wear regularly and should keep.
2. Remove items that you no longer need. If clothing is still in good condition, consider packing it up into boxes to donate at a later time.
3. If clothing is too worn to be donated (old stained shirts, stretched out sweaters, pants with holes), find a way to repurpose it. Some examples include:
 - cutting up t-shirts to use as cleaning rags
 - sewing sweaters into cozy throw pillow covers
 - turning long-sleeved shirts or hoodies into pet beds (instructions below)

Once you're done with your closet, look around the rest of your home and think of ways other items could be repurposed. Share pictures of your newly cleaned closet, boxes ready for donation, or repurposed items in the comments section!

Turning an old sweatshirt into a pet bed



You will need:

- an old long-sleeved shirt or sweatshirt
- any kind of material to stuff the bed with – old clothes, sheets, towels, pillows
- needle and thread
- scissors

Step 1

Turn the sweatshirt inside out, and lay flat



Step 2

Using a needle and thread, stitch along the collar line



Step 3

Turn the sweatshirt right side out. Stuff arms with old clothes, sheets, towels, or any other material you no longer need (this example used old sheets)



Step 4

Stuff the top section of the sweatshirt. Sew along the bottom of stuffed section, following the line of the sweatshirt arms. This creates the bed's bolster.



Step 5

Use an old throw pillow (or folded sheets, towels, or old clothes) to stuff the lower section of the sweatshirt. This creates the area your pet will lay on.



Step 6

Make a few stitches to close the bottom of the sweatshirt, preventing the pillow from falling out



Step 7

Tie the arms together along the bottom of the sweatshirt, readjusting the arm stuffing as needed. Your pet bed is complete!



Step 8

Let your pet enjoy their new napping place, as you enjoy the extra space in your closet!

