

# Tote-ally-tee



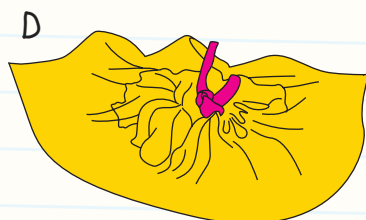
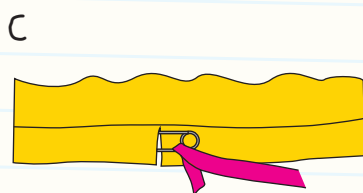
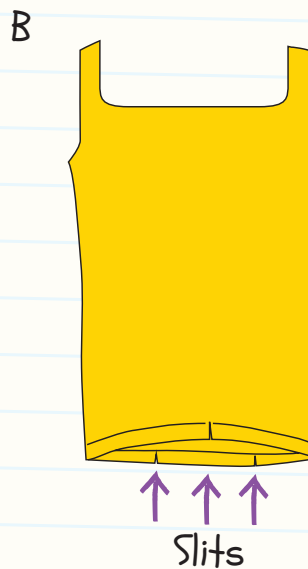
3D craft  
and design



15 mins



Jump  
straight in



## What you'll need

For each girl:

- An old T-shirt
- Scissors
- Safety pin

## Note to leader

Either ask girls to bring in old T-shirts or visit a charity shop. They can be any size or colour.

## Aim of activity

Try your hand at upcycling an old T-shirt to create a brand-new reusable bag.

## What you'll get out of it

- Upcycle an old item of clothing.
- Discover a new craft skill.



WE DISCOVER, WE GROW

**Girlguiding**



Upcycling is a great way to reuse clothes that are old or no longer fit. Turning your old T-shirt into a bag for life helps the environment and cuts down on using plastic. Have a go at creating a T-shirt reusable bag using only scissors and a safety pin!

## What to do

- 1 Get into pairs. You're going to help each other create your own unique tote bag.
- 2 Each take a T-shirt and cut off the sleeves inside the seam, as in picture A.
- 3 Cut the sleeves into strips about 3cm wide. Cut them so they're no longer a circle and stretch them out.
- 4 To make the handles of the bag, cut out the T-shirt neck as shown in picture A. Take turns to hold the T-shirt in place while your partner cuts. You can choose the shape you cut – v-shaped, round, or square like the picture.
- 5 Now you've finished the top, go to the bottom of the T-shirt. Turn it inside out and cut three slits into the hem, as shown in picture B.
- 6 Take a sleeve strip and attach a safety pin to one end. Thread it through one of the slits and pull it round the hem to the next one, as in picture C. Get your partner to hold your T-shirt still while you do this.
- 7 Pull the strip tight, then tie it in a knot as tight as you can, like in picture D. Repeat with the other slits so you have three holes tied.
- 8 Finally, tie the strings from each knot to each other, then cut off the excess material or make a bow. Turn your bag so it's no longer inside out. Make sure you help your partner finish their bag too.

There you go! Your very own bag for life.