



ways to reduce waste at home: reusable bags



When it comes down to it, the continuous debate over paper, plastic, or reusable bags is not really a debate at all. While paper bags alternatives are obviously superior to plastic bags as they decompose more quickly and can be recycled, they still require trees to be produced. To truly reduce our overall waste production, reusable bags are by far the best option. While there are good intentions behind recycling, many facilities are not equip to handle these plastic bags. Therefore it makes sense that of the 4 trillion single use plastic bags disposed of each year, only about 1% of are properly recycled. As for the rest, they end up either polluting our environment, killing nearly 100,000 marine animals each year or taking up

space in landfills. Full decomposition can take anywhere from 500 to 1,000 years which is terrible considering it's incredibly short period of use. Additionally, nearly 12 million barrels of oil are wasted each year to produce the amount of plastic bags consumed in the United States each year. These resources and energy could easily be conserved or dedicated elsewhere to a more sustainable and important cause. Reusable bags can be slightly more expensive however they're also more durable and available in almost every material at varying costs. There are reviews all over the internet with advice on the best, most affordable options and helpful cleaning instructions as provided in the first links below.

possible options: <https://www.epicurious.com/expert-advice/what-are-the-best-reusable-grocery-bags-article>

cleaning tips: <https://sapphirevn.com/news/how-to-care-for-and-clean-your-reusable-bags/>

sources:

<https://www.pens.com/blog/why-use-reusable-bags/>

<https://totebagfactory.com/blogs/news/8-reasons-you-should-use-reusable-grocery-bags>

images:

<https://welcomeobjects.com/2017/04/22/baggu-reusable-bag-review/>

<https://www.epicurious.com/expert-advice/what-are-the-best-reusable-grocery-bags-article>