



PLASTIC BAG ECO MAT

Re-purposing items after they have served their original purpose is one way to bring sustainability into your house. These mats can be small or large, plain or decorated, functional items or pieces of art.



SUSTAINABILITY

*Learn to live
lightly by
focussing on
Sustainability
and knowing
more about your
place*

Activity overview

Create a woven
mat from soft
plastics!

Equipment required

Lots of plastic
bags

Large rectangle
of cardboard

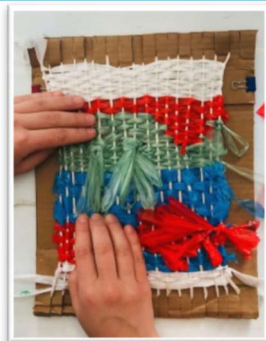
Ruler

Wool or string

Scissors

Time required

30-60 mins



Before you start:

Please don't go out and buy plastic bags for this! The idea is to find a use for materials that you already have around the house. If you don't have many plastic bags lying around, this can be done with scraps of material (think old shirts, sewing scraps, old towels) or even natural fibres (long leaves, grass etc).

What to do:

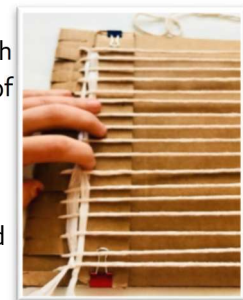
Step 1: To begin cut strips of your weaving material (plastic or something else). Material can be as thick or thin as you like, but the longer the better.

Step 2: Make a weaving 'loom' or frame out the cardboard. It doesn't really matter how big this is, but keep in mind that this will determine the size of your finished mat. Cut slits along the 2 short edges of the rectangle (2-5cm apart and about 3-5cm deep).

Step 3: Use the wool or string to loop back and forth between the slits, tying both ends across the back of the board to secure it.

Step 4: Tie your weaving material to one of the outer lines of string and begin weaving across your loom. Follow an over-under pattern, turning around at each end. When you get to the end of each piece of material, tie it off and start a new one. Make sure that you push each row tightly against the previous ones as you go.

Step 5: When you have finished weaving, you need to take it off the cardboard loom. Flip the whole thing over, and slice a piece of string along the top and bottom. Double knot the top and bottom of these threads to stop them pulling through. Repeat this until your mat is separate from your frame.



Source: <https://maptote.com/blog/up-cycled-plastic-bag-weaving-diy/>

This information is not for sale. It is for educational purposes only.

Contact us: Breathing_Space@maroonoec.eq.edu.au