

- 1 Hold a garage sale, sell the goods and donate the proceeds.
- 2 Host a bazaar at a school or place of worship, sell goods, donate proceeds.
- 3 Donate the items to a local charity.
- 4 Donate the items to a local women's shelter.
- 5 Donate the items to a local homeless shelter.
- 6 Donate clothes, jewelry, props and costumes that can be used in a play to a local school's drama department.
- 7 Create hacky sacks, rice bag warmers and other unique gifts with used clothing: [www.huffingtonpost.com/2009/02/09/green-cleaning-37-reuses\\_n\\_165129.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2009/02/09/green-cleaning-37-reuses_n_165129.html)
- 8 Research charities online, pick one and donate the items: [www.charityfocus.org/vol/guide.php?s=donate\\_goods](http://www.charityfocus.org/vol/guide.php?s=donate_goods)
- 9 As part of a disaster awareness event, use the donations as a model of good intentions that can backfire (and send photos to [photos@cidi.org](mailto:photos@cidi.org)).



- 10 Organize a cook-off to use donated canned goods in unique recipes.
- 11 Hold a live auction of the goods.
- 12 Donate canned food and bottled water to local food banks.
- 13 Donate bottled water to local sports teams.
- 14 Hold a sculpture contest for artwork created from the goods (and send a photo of the sculptures to [photos@cidi.org](mailto:photos@cidi.org)).
- 15 Auction the goods online. Find online vendors at: [www.online-auction-sites.toptenreviews.com/](http://www.online-auction-sites.toptenreviews.com/)
- 16 Buy a donated can of food as a voucher to wear jeans to work or school.
- 17 Buy a donated can of food as a voucher to wear a crazy hat to work or school.
- 18 Turn donated items into artwork and host an art exhibit (and send photos to [photos@cidi.org](mailto:photos@cidi.org)).
- 19 Host a lottery of the goods. Sell tickets, donate proceeds.
- 20 Sponsor a fashion show where viewers buy the clothes off the models.
- 21 Use items as door prizes at a fundraising event.
- 22 Hold tower-building contests with the goods (and send photos to [photos@cidi.org](mailto:photos@cidi.org)).
- 23 Hold a benefit dinner serving cuisine made from donated food items.
- 24 Use donated goods as props in a benefit play, sell pieces as tickets.
- 25 Hold a Best Outfit contest using only donated clothes and accessories.
- 26 Decorate cans for use as pencil holders, planters, pots, etc.
  - As a class project
  - To be given as gifts
  - For sale or auction



- 27 Sell water bottles at sporting events, donate them to a shelter or give them as needed to thirsty people.
- 28 Repurpose and sell blankets as car seat covers, shams, towels, baby blankets, etc.
- 29 Donate toys to local daycare facilities, shelters or schools.
- 30 Use donated food items to make meals for the homeless at a local shelter.
- 31 Host a silent auction [www.ehow.com/how\\_5962615\\_hold-silent-auction-classroom.html](http://www.ehow.com/how_5962615_hold-silent-auction-classroom.html)
- 32 Use donated items for a Guess the Weight or Guess the Transportation Cost contest. Correct guess wins the items.
- 33 Organize a Free Store. Like a swap meet, in a free store, people give the store what they do not want while taking something they do want.
- 34 Cut off a plastic bottle bottom; the bottle becomes a funnel, the cut-off part can hold paper clips, paint for touch-ups or be a seed starter.
- 35 Make plastic bottle terrariums. Layer soil, then seeds, then a little more soil. Water gently through the opening, add a little sunshine and watch it grow!
- 36 Donate goods as appropriate to local animal shelters.
- 37 Use soft donated goods to make a ball pit for a local school or daycare.
- 38 Offer clothes to consignment stores.
- 39 Create and sell pillows and shams made from clothes.
- 40 Create and sell wreaths made from clothing scraps: [www.tearosehome.blogspot.com/2010/02/tutorialvalentines-wreath.html](http://www.tearosehome.blogspot.com/2010/02/tutorialvalentines-wreath.html)
- 41 Make and sell dolls and other toys from goods.
- 42 Weave and sell rugs out of clothing scraps: [www.ehow.com/how\\_7717132\\_weave-rugs-fabric-scraps.html](http://www.ehow.com/how_7717132_weave-rugs-fabric-scraps.html)
- 43 Sew and sell quilts from clothes: [www.quiltbug.com/articles/Tshirt-quilts.htm](http://www.quiltbug.com/articles/Tshirt-quilts.htm)
- 44 Make and sell fabric roses from strips of donated clothing: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=bnGdX7\\_5Rds](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bnGdX7_5Rds)
- 45 Make lava bottles! [www.video.search.yahoo.com/search/video?p=how+to+make+a+lava+lamp+out+of+a+bottle](http://www.video.search.yahoo.com/search/video?p=how+to+make+a+lava+lamp+out+of+a+bottle)
- 46 Use bottle caps to create checkers and sell checker sets.
- 47 Create and sell jewelry made from donated goods.
- 48 Make and sell Christmas tree ornaments from donated goods.
- 49 Make lanterns out of cans: [www.ehow.com/how\\_3431\\_make-tin-can.html](http://www.ehow.com/how_3431_make-tin-can.html)
- 50 Turn empty bottles into bird feeders (search the internet for your preferred style).
- 51 Make a very warm, no-sew wool blanket from donated blankets: [www.ehow.com/how\\_7835420\\_keep-warm-hammock-sewing.html](http://www.ehow.com/how_7835420_keep-warm-hammock-sewing.html)
- 52 Decorate metal cans and use to collect donation money.
- 53 Use old T-shirts and other clothing items such as towels for a relief car wash.
- 54 Give unusable clothing donations to a textile recycler. Google one nearest you.
- 55 Cut a slot below the cap of a bottle, decorate the bottle and use as a "bottle bank" to collect money for disaster relief.



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