

Episode 11: Repurposing and Reusing Packaging

Lisa: Hello everybody. Welcome to our next episode, our 'Waste a minute' video of refurbishing and tips on recycling etc. (Slides antibacterial hand gel to socially distanced colleague). So Alison, it's lovely, you'll notice we are in the same room together.

Alison: Yes, lovely to see you in the flesh.

Lisa: It's lovely to see you. Now I've noticed a lot of paper here, you've brought with you. Where's that from?

Alison: Well I'm probably like many people and I've been ordering things more online recently and I feel guilty because of the packaging that it's creating. It is good to see that some companies are no longer using polystyrene and plastic, which are difficult to reuse and repurpose but what I want to do is feel like that this will get reused so I'm folding it up and keeping it at the moment.

Lisa: Which is a really good idea because you don't have to recycle all of the packaging, you can reuse it. This is a perfect example. This is the little box that I've wrapped up in the packaging that I've had. I've reused it, repurposed it. You can decorate it nice. You can send it through the post as it is. It's a really good example of reusing and repurposing.

I've noticed some beautiful paper here and where's that from?

Alison: Yes, well I'm trying to live a life with less plastic and less single-use plastics. My toilet rolls now come wrapped in pretty papers, which I'm folding up and keeping and I've told all my family that they're getting their presents wrapped up in it. So here is an example of reusing the paper and I've used garden twine and just bought some plain tags that can be recycled.

Lisa: Lovely. I love how you have wrapped it around, it looks like ribbon. It looks really good, very very effective. You've inspired me Alison, you've made me think. These are hard to wrap these shapes so I am going to get one of your papers. This is a little tip for you, for round things, very very quick and simple. Roll it up in your paper, then instead of using tape and folding over like you normally do, get some twine that you use for your garden and or string. Tie it both ends, like this. I'm not going to do really neat job because of time. So just tie little bits and you can make it into bows. If you have a look here now, you'll see the effect. If you fan these out affected families out, you've got a lovely cracker. That was really simple and took me 5 seconds to do.

As for tags, I am sure you all have done this before. You've got cards, cut them out and made them into gift tags. So I've got one here, so I am going to put that in there. That wrapping that I've done, that's all recyclable stuff and it's all repurposed and I haven't had to buy anything.

Alison: Yes. That's one step better than me because I bought those and I thought I was doing well. So hats off to you.

Lisa: We've come to the end of our video now, hope you've enjoyed these tips and stay safe everybody and thank you for listening.