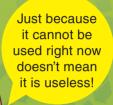


Text: Staff reporter • Photos: AFP, I

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OR most of us, simple upcycling may mean DIY handicrafts, such as turning plastic bottles into pencil holders, or **polishing** broken glass pieces into accessories. But with the right technology, upcycling can be applied to **transform** what seems to be absolutely useless. Can you imagine clothes made from cow poop, plastic bottles and coffee grounds? Or wallets made from fish skin? These are all real examples of upcycling technology.



Poo to posh

ECO-CONCERNED designers are looking for greener fabric **substitutes**. One possible material is, believe it or not, made from cow poop! The fabric created is soft, sturdy and, naturally, odourless.



Coffee to clothes

COFFEE **grounds** used in brewing usually end up in the bin, but it could be turned into **fertilisers**. Can you also imagine turning this muck into a T-shirt? A Taiwanese company has developed a fabric made with recycled coffee grounds and plastic bottles. Three cups of coffee, and 12 and a half bottles can create one

heat-preserving, odour-controlling shirt.

Bathtubs to sofas

BULKY furniture is a major landfill headache. Second-hand furniture used to end up in them but not anymore. Look closely at the sofa Stevie is sitting on. It is made from a bathtub. Some furniture in the **sludge** processing facility T-Park, in Tuen Mun, are actually 'upgraded' old desks and chairs from a school.

