

» **craft canister**

Let's be candid, recycling recycling can be fun! Wrap randomly knotted plastic strips around a cardboard canister (an empty oatmeal container will work). As you wrap, push the pieces down so they're nice and snug. Cover the canister with parchment paper, and press an iron onto the plastic. This fuses each plastic strand together.



« **dumpster to doormat**

We just couldn't sweep this idea under the rug. Nope, we want you to walk all over it! Save those extra shopping bags, and cut them into 1½ to 2-inch strips. Then whip out your crochet hook and go to town! The finished piece is waterproof, so it's the perfect pit stop for muddy boots and soggy sneakers.

» **bracelet bravo**

Want to wear your love of recycling? Hit your wrist with a quirky, plastic-covered bangle bracelet. You'll need leftover tape spools, like the ones that come with masking tape. Cut strips from leftover plastic bags, and wind them around the spools. Place parchment paper over the plastic, and press with an iron to fuse.



» **gifted thrifter**

We're giving "gift bags" a whole new meaning. That's because this present is decked with a bow made from recycled shopping bags. Cut strips of plastic, sew a gathering stitch down the center of each one...and pull! The resulting ruffles can be wrapped around a box like ribbon or formed into cute, stackable rosettes. Now, does that make you a thrifty gifter...or a gifted thrifter?



**RECYCLE,
REUSE, &
REPURPOSE...**

Even the family pooch can get in on the trend!



Create unique wall displays, funky jewelry and even a cute-as-can-be doggie leash and party hat—all using recycled plastic shopping bags.

rover says waste not, want not!

{CREATIVE INSPIRATIONS *free* FROM HOBBY LOBBY®}

doggie bag

This pup-approved project is a walk in the park! Simply cut plastic bags into strips, and then double up and braid. Knot one end into a loop to create a handle, knot the other end to a keychain-style spring snap (available in the Crafts Department), and finish with coordinating ribbon. **Tip:** You can use the same technique to make a matching collar. In that case, knot the ends of the braid to a plastic fastener, sold near the sewing notions.



plastic fruit

From a bag to a basket! Upset the status quo when you transform extra plastic sacks into a quirky little fruit tote! Cut the sacks into strips, tying one of the strips around a hard circular object like a round kitchen stool. Tie the rest of the strips around the perimeter of the first, and knot them into a net, as shown. **Tip:** To create the circular shape, tie knots closer and closer together as you get to the bottom of the basket.



^ wreathcycled

Keep the circle of life turning by putting those plastic bags to cute use. We twisted three wire hangers into a round shape to create the frame for this recycled wreath. Then we rolled doubled up 1½ inch strips of plastic into simple rosettes, hot-gluing them to the frame as we worked. A coordinating ribbon and a handle from an old canvas shopping bag to serve as a hanger...and we were done!



>> all wall

Recycled art starts with a stack of used shopping bags! And it just doesn't get any easier. We placed the bags between the rings of ordinary embroidery hoops (available in the Needlework Department). Then we tightened the hoops and trimmed away the excess plastic. **Tip:** Since plastic bags tend to be translucent, it may be helpful to place white fabric behind them.



be a clown For a pooch-worthy party hat, adhere leftover plastic bags to simple cardstock with double-sided adhesive. Use the freshly covered cardstock to create a cone as shown. Then punch holes on either side to accommodate a pair of ribbon ties—you may wish to add simple eyelets. And to finish? A handmade pom-pom!



^ dog-gone good lookin'

Every day is a dress up day for a pooch who recycles. Keep that eco-puppy looking cute with adorably thrifty accessories, like this simple bow tie. There's nothing to it—it's simply tied to the front of his collar. Now nobody can resist those puppy dog eyes.

