



## **Reinvention: Sewing with Rescued Materials**

*Maya Donenfeld*

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

# Reinvention: Sewing with Rescued Materials

*Maya Donenfeld*

## **Reinvention: Sewing with Rescued Materials** Maya Donenfeld

28 projects seamlessly merge stitching, sustainability, and resourcefulness with simple, clean design. Advancements in technology have increased the pace of our lives. As a response, a vibrant Do It Yourself movement has risen to reclaim age old traditions that reconnect us to slower and simpler times. A sewing renaissance has been set in motion at a time in history when economic instability and an awareness of the importance of using sustainable resources is peaking.

With this in mind, award-winning blogger Maya Donenfeld offers a guide to working with her favorite recycled materials. You'll find linen, burlap, wool and more with details on their history, deconstruction techniques, sewing tips, and information about their environmental impact.

Reinventing everyday materials into extraordinary items of beauty and utility for the modern home and family will excite new and experienced sewers alike. To add an element of personalization, Maya draws on her experience leading print workshops to share easy methods for transforming gently-used fabric with paint and ink. Stenciling templates and thorough instructions are provided, as well as encouragement to invent your own designs. Stories, a favorite recipe, and nature activity are tucked between and around the projects to offer the reader an invitation to slow down, and create with intention.

## **Reinvention: Sewing with Rescued Materials Details**

Date : Published May 1st 2012 by Wiley (first published February 1st 2012)

ISBN : 9781118077535

Author : Maya Donenfeld

Format : Hardcover 192 pages

Genre : Crafts, Sewing, Nonfiction, Art

 [Download Reinvention: Sewing with Rescued Materials ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Reinvention: Sewing with Rescued Materials ...pdf](#)

**Download and Read Free Online Reinvention: Sewing with Rescued Materials Maya Donenfeld**

---

# From Reader Review Reinvention: Sewing with Rescued Materials for online ebook

## Helena says

Fun-looking projects, but I have no sewing skills (it's on the list of things to learn) so there weren't any projects I could do at this point. I was mostly reading it for "someday inspiration."

---

## April Corbett (Dorris) says

I love this book. I have already made 4 items from it and plan to make more in the near future. I highly recommend this for all crafty people.

---

## Alex says

As far as craft books go, this is a goodie. Guidance on how to salvage the most from reclaimed materials, clear instructions on the projects suggested. This title hits a nice balance between giving precise steps while leaving lots of room for interpretation.

The general aesthetic is like most other modern DIY books: chic rooms with good natural light with carefully selected items from flea markets, thrift shops, and Grandma's attic. I'll be making quite a few projects from Reinvention and I'll update my review with feedback.

---

## Carissa says

I keep forgetting this book's title, but I think about it often. I love that she has crafts with Tyvek and burlap!

---

## Susie says

I really like that this book discuss the environmental impact of each fabric it discusses. It really inspires you to reuse instead of throwing away.

Some great ideas, including:

Freezer Paper Printing

Arithmetic Pillows

Onion & Garlic Sacks

Burlap Bins

Barn Throw

Poufs

Double Duty Oven Mitt

Indi Go Bag

## **Shala Kerrigan says**

Reinvention : Sewing with Recycled Materials by Maya Donenfeld is a collection of sewing projects that use thrifted and otherwise scavenged materials and turning them into something new.

If you love sewing, and recycled projects, this is a wonderful book. The author writes engagingly about her experiences and life, and gives tips for finding the materials for the projects. The techniques include patchwork, stamping and printing. The sewing is all fairly simple, no fancy or fussy seam techniques or anything like that.

The chapters are separated by fabric type. Each chapter explains the fabric, a bit about the history, how to take care of it, and where the best places are to find it. She also explains the environmental impact of re-using that particular fabric. The chapters have a few projects each and there is good variety between home decorating projects, clothing, and accessories.

Linen- my favorite projects in this chapter are the Story Scarf ,which is a fashion scarf made in patchwork, and the big handy, Reversible Summer Sling purse. My daughter is wild for the Story Scarf, and the Envelope Portfolio which can be customized easily using fabric paint and stencils.

Burlap- I get burlap bags every few months from one of the local coffee roasters. We use them for all sorts of things, and this chapter inspires more uses. The Onion and Garlic Sacks are my favorite. My daughter likes the Inspiration Board project.

Jersey (tee shirt cotton knit)- My daughter likes the Pillow Pals. My favorite project is a toss up between the simple hand sewn Blossom Band with it's two type of flowers, and the Little Forager Skirt. The reason I love the skirt so much is that even now, it's ideal for my daughter. She's always been a forager, with a sharp eye for anything from washers on a street to use in projects to pretty rocks when we are out on hikes in the summer.

Wool - blankets, suits and coats deconstructed to take advantage of the wonderful properties of wool. Great projects in this section. It's my favorite chapter in the book. The Poufs can be filled with scraps from other sewing projects, the insulated lunch bag is something you could use every day, and the Toadstool Cottage is a whimsical alternative to dollhouses.

Denim- My favorite project is the Double Duty Oven Mitt , simple seams, and it's a great housewarming gift. I also love the roomy Indi-Go Bag for shopping. My daughter's favorite is the hammock project.

Mailers, which uses Tyvek envelopes, is my daughter's favorite chapter. She's been a fan of re-using these for years, and is always really happy when I get mail in them. The insides are canvases ready to be colored, and they can be sewn, glued and taped. I like the Notebook project best as a way to make small memory books. Her favorite is the Banner project.

Vintage uses all sorts of vintage textiles, bed sheets, aprons, kitchen towels and table cloths are all used in this chapter. my favorite project is the Traveling Hamper, my daughter loves the Summer Bolster.

Spiral bound with a hard outer cover and gorgeously photographed, this is a lovely and inspirational collection of things to make using recycled fabrics.

[I received a complimentary copy of the book to review on my craft blog- Don't Eat the Paste. My reviews are always my honest opinion]

---

### **Niki says**

Beautiful pictures but I wasn't inspired.

---

### **Tamara says**

Again, some of these projects are not-quite-so green. They do use rescued materials, but a lot of them then require many more new materials to make the whole piece.

---

### **Jean says**

Ideas and instructions I found especially intriguing or useful:

1. How to make a fairy play-house.
  2. Sewing and painting on discarded Tyvek mailing envelopes.
  3. A well-insulated lunch bag made from an old wool blanket.
- 

### **Diane says**

If you are new to sewing green, then you might find a nice amount of inspiration in this book. If you are an accomplished sewer and have been upcycling a while... you probably won't find many ideas.

The book is beautifully photographed, but how many throw pillows and totes does a person need?

---

### **Katie says**

Fun book to find ideas to reuse fabrics that might otherwise get thrown out. I would have liked it to be longer...more ideas in each section.

Want to make:

the t-shirt quilt...much more elegant than many t-shirt quilts I have seen. ( Learned that I need a special needle for my sewing machine to sew through jersey.)

The wool insulated lunch sack...would be awesome for the boys for hunting/hiking

The tyvek mailer banner...way cool!!

---

**Anne says**

Some great ideas.

---

**Dianne Burton says**

I enjoyed this book and I liked the fact that it provided a back history on the designers sewing past. I also enjoyed the information at the start of each chapter on different fabrics and their histories. The photographs are beautiful but I would like to have seen a wider variety of projects because the bolster, pillow friends and cushions are all just cushions, there is also a bit of repetition with bags, the idea is the same just slightly changed style. I did love the hammock and the toadstool house, the idea of making such a fantastic, creative little toy is just wonderful in a world full of plastic tat. I do a lot of recycled craft myself so maybe the ideas were not all that new to me however for anyone new to recycling I would say buy or borrow this book it certainly is a pleasure to read.

---

**Sarah says**

Unlike many "recycled crafts" books, this one actually up cycles things destined for the trash and turns them into genuinely lovely items. No qualification. Nothing like, "Well, it's nice for a pencil jar obviously made of a soda bottle," sorts of things here; this woman even has some fabulous projects for priority mail tyvek mailers!

---

**Emily says**

Sorry, this book just didn't really do anything for me. I didn't see anything that I hadn't seen in other books. The narration was a little too "I grew up on a farm sewing my own clothes in a barn my grandfather built" for me. That's great, but it doesn't help me want to make anything in the book. I do like that the chapters are divided by fabric type and she includes some fabrics not seen as often, like burlap and jersey.

---