



Sponsored by Working Green and the MIT Recycling Program

MIT has an active reuse community including email lists like reuse@mit.edu and freefood@mit.edu. In addition, there is a monthly event called Choose to Reuse.

***When and where is Choose to Reuse held?***

The events are held on the third Thursday of the month during the academic year. There are no Choose to Reuse events in the summer.

Drop-off for CtR begins at 8:00 am in the Stata Center's big white lobby at the corner of Main and Vassar Streets. Getting stuff starts at 11:00 am and ends at 1:00 pm; drop offs continue until noon.

***Does it cost anything to attend a Choose to Reuse event?***

No, there is no admission charge, but an MIT ID is required to attend.

***All of the items are free?***

Yep, everything is free. The goal is to extend the life of good products by sharing them with others. By doing this, we're using less energy and generating less waste overall.

***Do I have to bring something to swap in order to participate?***

You don't have to bring in anything to swap. In other words, you don't have to give to get.

***Is there a limit to the number of items I can take?***

A maximum of five items may be taken between 11:00 and 12:20. This gives people who can't take lunch until noon a chance to choose, too. From around 12:20-1:00 there is no limit on the amount of items you may take. Some people come at 11:00, get five items, and come back after 12:20 to get more.

***What kinds of things do people bring?***

We never know what to expect, but the majority of what people bring includes clothes, shoes, handbags, jewelry, household goods, books, electronics and sports equipment.

***If no one takes the item I donated, do I have to take it back?***

No, you don't have to take the item back. Everything leftover is either recycled or donated through MIT's Recycling Program.

***Are there things that people don't want?***

It seems that people don't take video tapes or audio tapes. Also, we get lots of books including text books, but no one takes old texts.

***I have something that needs a minor repair. Can I bring that?***

No, it's best not to bring things that need repair. We're looking for goods that are ready to use or wear.

***Are there any restrictions on what to bring?***

Yes. Everything should be clean and operable. Items should be light enough to be carried out easily. Food items must be unopened with an unexpired date. Opened packages are not appropriate.

***Can I bring things from home?***

Sure. However, because the Recycling Program has to pay for the removal of materials from campus, please don't bring unusable electronic items from home, i.e., old televisions, broken computers, etc.

***What's the best kind of thing to bring?***

If you're not sure what to bring, consider this: if you wouldn't spend money for it, then don't bring it. We want people to go away with an item that is clean and usable.