

Reuse and Repair

or

(why and how to keep using our stuff!)



Planned Obsolescence

A policy of planning or designing a product with an artificially limited useful life, so that it becomes obsolete after a certain period of time.

“ Our whole economy is based on

Planned Obsolescence...

We make good products, we induce people to buy them, and then next year we deliberately introduce something that will make those products old fashioned, out of date, obsolete.

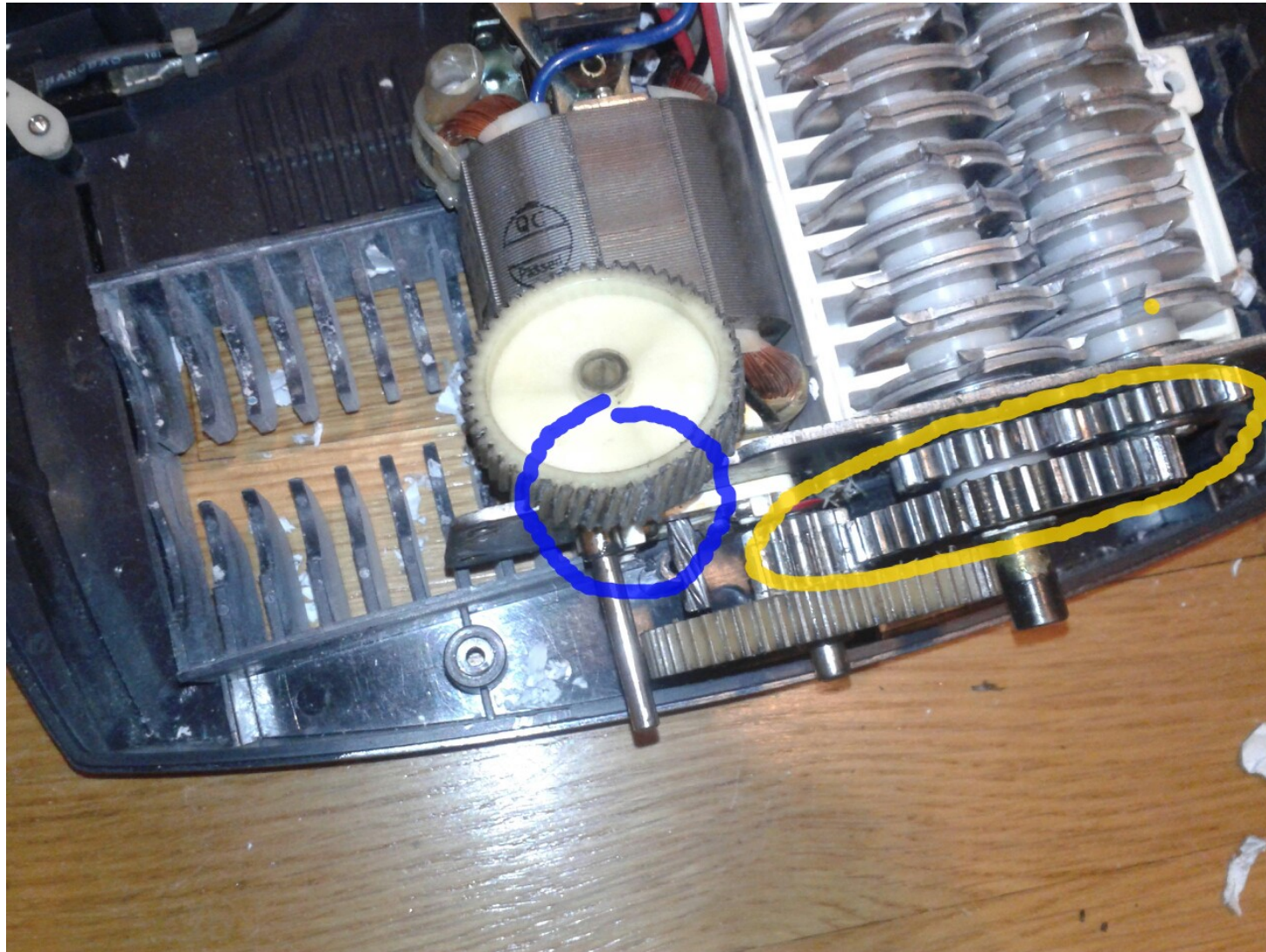
We do this for the soundest reason... to Make Money! ”

— Brooks Stevens,
Industrial Designer. 1958

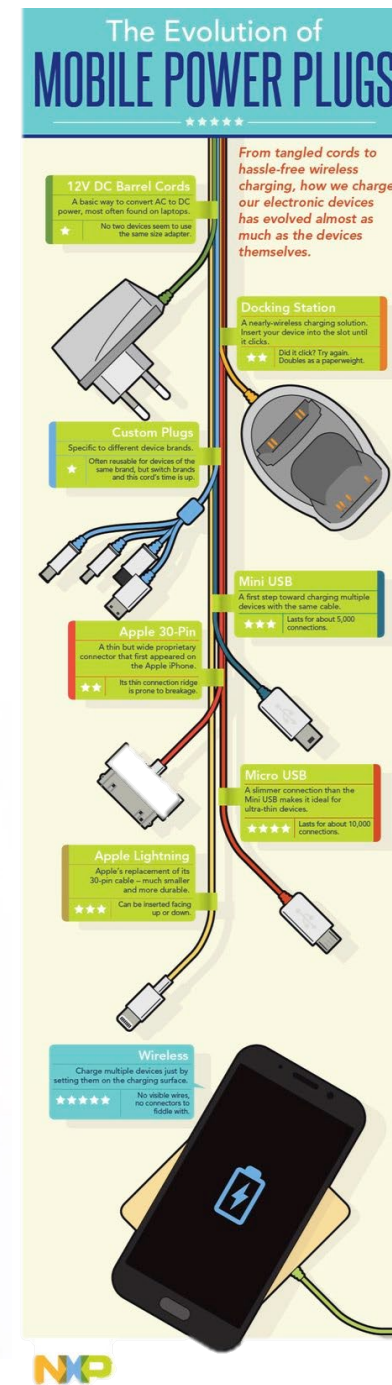
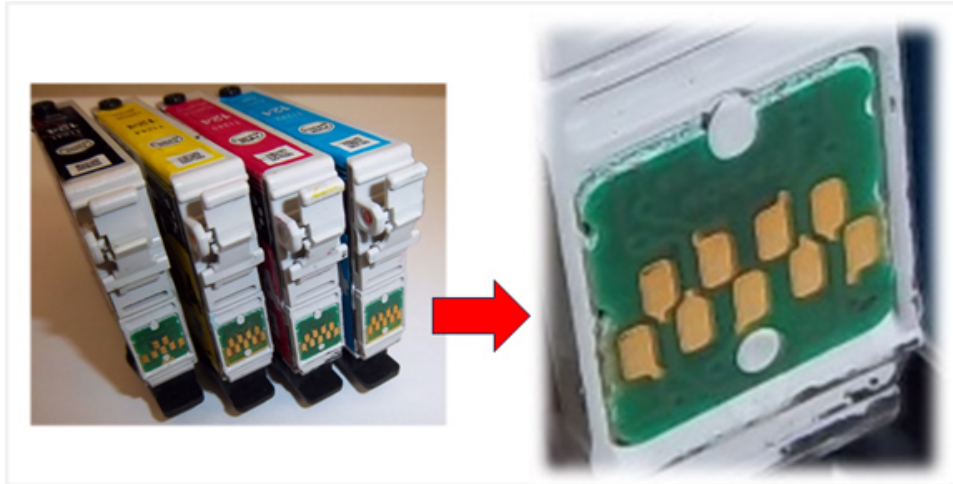
*Brought to you by the
Post-Landfill Action Network*



Contrived Durability



Systemic and Programmed Obsolescence



Stylistic Obsolescence



The Clothing Industry



THE AVERAGE
CONSUMER BUYS
60% MORE
CLOTHING
PER YEAR
THAN 15 YEARS AGO



... and keeps it only half as long.

**WORLDWIDE CLOTHING
PRODUCTION
DOUBLED
BETWEEN
2000 AND
2014**

By 2014, the number of garments exceeded 100 billion.



LEVI'S® 501® JEAN LIFECYCLE IMPACT

The entire lifecycle of one pair of Levi's® 501® jeans equates to:

Climate Change:
33.4 kg CO₂-e...

Water Consumed:
3,781 liters...

Eutrophication:
48.9 g PO₄-e...

Land Occupation:
12 m²/year...



- 69 miles driven by the average US car
- 246 hours of TV on a plasma big-screen

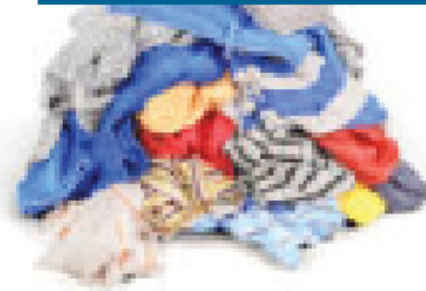
3 days worth of one US household's total water needs

The total amount of phosphorous found in 1,700 tomatoes

Seven people standing with arms outstretched, fingertips touching, would form one side of a square this size

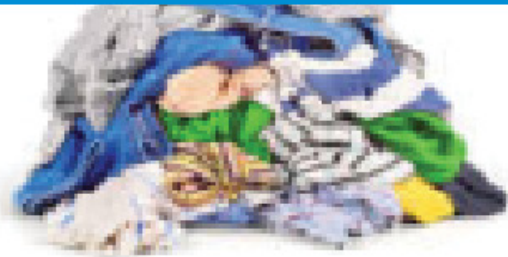
WHY WE GET RID OF CLOTHING IS PREVENTABLE

RIPPED SEAM (17%)



DOESN'T FIT (65%)

HOLE IN FABRIC (38%)



POOR QUALITY (19%)



NO LONGER LIKE IT (33%)





Americans
throw away
over 32
billion
pounds of
textiles each
year.



Upstream

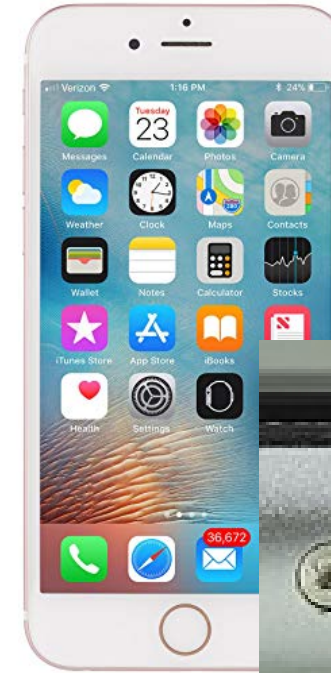
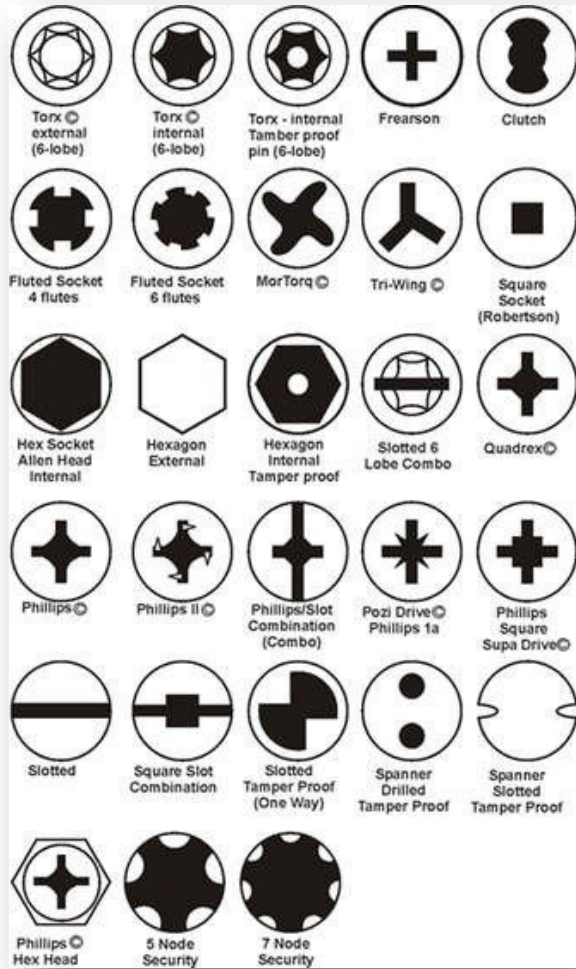
20% of industrial water pollution from fabric treatment; 8,000 chemicals



Downstream

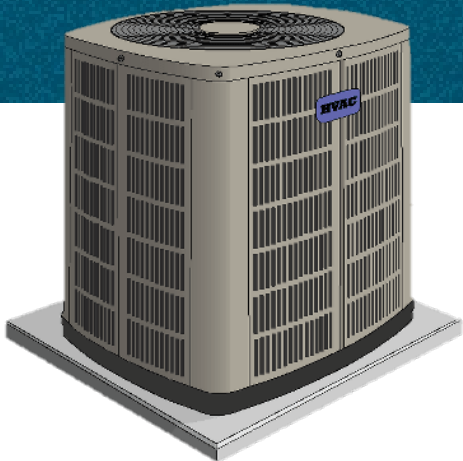
Import bans of used clothing because of economic and social impacts

Prevention of Repairs



REPAIR

REPLACE



**KEEP
CALM
I HAVE
GOOD
NEWS**

Right to Repair

LEGISLATION

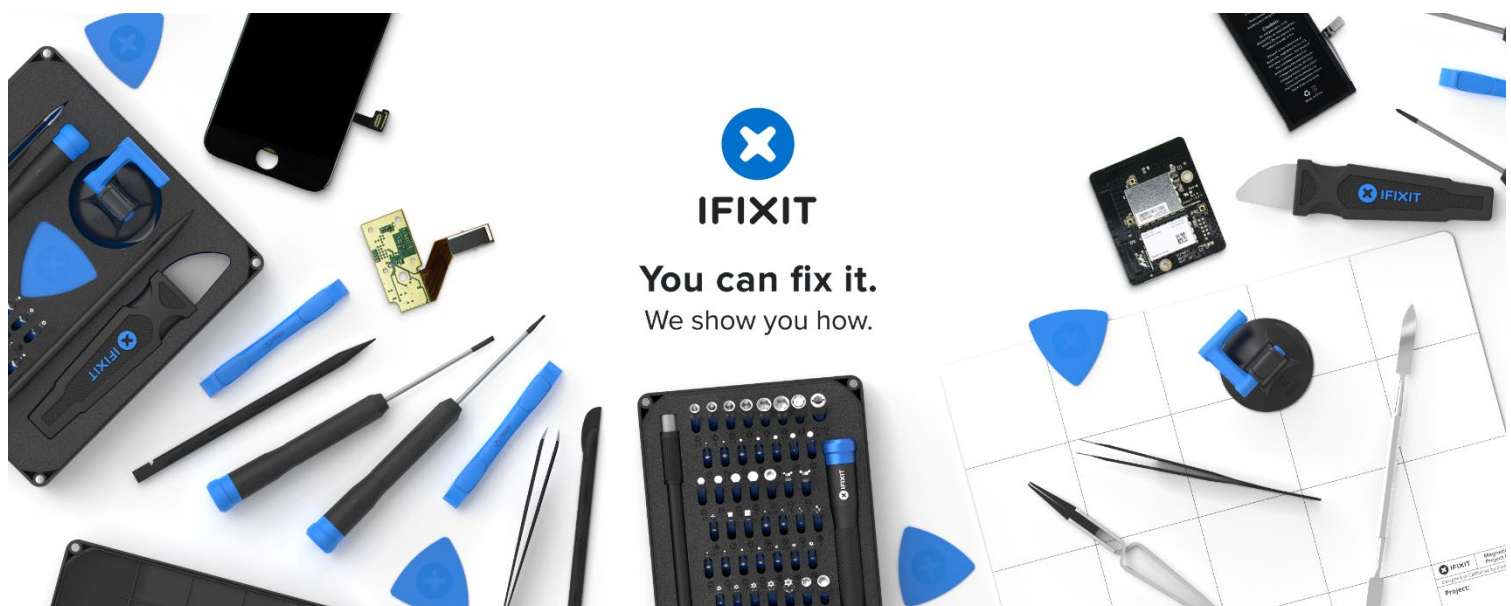


loading...



IFIXIT

You can fix it.
We show you how.



REPAIR MANIFESTO

WE HOLD THESE TRUTHS TO BE SELF-EVIDENT

IF YOU CAN'T FIX IT, YOU DON'T OWN IT.

REPAIR IS BETTER THAN RECYCLING

Making our things last longer is both more efficient and more cost-effective than mining them for raw materials.

REPAIR SAVES YOU MONEY

Fixing things is often free, and usually cheaper than replacing them. Doing the repair yourself saves you money.

REPAIR TEACHES ENGINEERING

The best way to find out how something works is to take it apart.

REPAIR SAVES THE PLANET

Earth has limited resources. Eventually we will run out. The best way to be efficient is to reuse what we already have.



REPAIR **CONNECTS**
PEOPLE AND THINGS

REPAIR IS WAR ON
ENTROPY

REPAIR IS
SUSTAINABLE

WE HAVE THE RIGHT:
TO DEVICES THAT CAN BE OPENED
TO REPAIR DOCUMENTATION FOR
EVERYTHING
TO REPAIR THINGS
IN THE PRIVACY OF OUR OWN HOMES

TO CHOOSE
OUR OWN REPAIR TECHNICIAN
TO REMOVE 'DO NOT REMOVE' STICKERS
TO REPLACE
ANY & ALL
CONSUMABLES OURSELVES
TO TROUBLESHOOTING
INSTRUCTIONS &
FLOWCHARTS
TO AVAILABLE, REASONABLY-PRICED SERVICE PARTS

BECAUSE REPAIR IS INDEPENDENCE | REQUIRES CREATIVITY | MAKES CONSUMERS INTO CONTRIBUTORS | **INSPIRES**
SAVES MONEY & RESOURCES | PRIDE IN OWNERSHIP

2017 DEQ Reuse/Repair Workforce Development Micro-Grant Awards Description of Grants Funded in 2017

Technical Apparel Repair Scaling

Grantee: Renewal Workshop

Amount: \$9,760

The Renewal Workshop in Cascade Locks will train two sewing technicians and purchase new equipment to expand their unique model of repairing small defects in returned clothing that would have otherwise been discarded. This process brings these items back into the economy for use.

Job Development in Electronics Refurbishing and Materials Reuse

Grantee: Garten Services

Amount: \$10,000

Garten Services in Salem will recruit and train two new employees to sort electronics for reuse. This will range from harvesting, testing and packaging small parts for resale, to testing computers, printers and monitors, to assessing the cost/benefit ratio of refurbishment of unique items. These new employees will be adults with intellectual and/or cognitive disabilities.

Train a Cobbler

Grantee: JD's Shoe Repair

Amount: \$10,000

JD's Shoe Repair in Portland will train one cobbler, for employment in the business or to start their own small business. This new worker will be trained in repair of shoes, bags, sports equipment, and other items. This company has steady demand and is looking to grow, and grant funding will assist to cover in-house training costs.

Tool Lending Library Operations Manager Position

Grantee: The Toolbox Project

Amount: \$10,000

The Toolbox Project in Eugene will hire an operations manager and purchase equipment to facilitate member growth, further outreach, and increase the financial stability of the organization. This will allow more people to use this community library of tools, avoiding unnecessary new purchases.




State of Oregon
Department of
Environmental
Quality

Materials Management

700 NE Multnomah St.
Suite 600
Portland, OR 97232
Phone: 503-229-5518
Contact: Steve Siegel
Siegel.steve@deq.state.or.us

www.oregon.gov/DEQ

DEQ is a leader in restoring, maintaining and enhancing the quality of Oregon's air, land and water.



[Oregonians] are practical and savvy. That's why more and more of us are choosing quality clothes that save money, last longer and reduce waste. Well-made clothes are available for every budget, are built to last, and can be worn often and for years to come. It's about making choices that make sense—which is just part of who we are.

MAKE EVERY THREAD COUNT.

MAKE EVERY THREAD COUNT.

Oregonians are practical and savvy. That's why more and more of us are choosing quality clothes that save money, last longer and reduce waste. Well-made clothes are available for every budget, are built to last, and can be worn often and for years to come. It's about making choices that make sense—which is just part of who we are.

LEARN HOW TO HELP

Quality doesn't have to be code for "expensive." Well-made clothes aren't determined by the price tag and simple care can make those pieces last, which saves you the hassle and cost of replacing them. You can extend the life of your clothes and your investment by taking a few easy steps.

STEP 1: LOOK FOR SIGNS OF QUALITY

EDGES AND HEMS: Cut or "raw" edges and hems can lead to unraveling and loose, hanging threads. Be careful in choosing garments with these features as they may require special laundering.

GOOD QUALITY THREAD AND STRONG, EVEN STITCHES: Give the fabric a gentle pull to see if the thread breaks or pops. Check for rippled, puckered or twisted hems and seams. Avoid garments that don't appear to hang smoothly.

FABRICS: All types of fabrics, whether natural or synthetic, have advantages and disadvantages. Consider the quality of the fabric itself (thickness, softness, stretch, etc.) and how suitable the fabric is for that particular item. Will it be comfortable and durable?



LININGS: For suits and other lined garments, check to see if the lining hangs loosely and doesn't cause any pulling or puckering.

MATCHED PATTERNS: If the garment has stripes or plaid, the pattern should match up at the seams.

QUALITY BUTTONS AND BUTTONHOLES: Buttonholes should be well stitched with no loose threads or raw fabric showing. Test the button in the buttonhole to make sure it's easy to button up the garment.

STEP 2: CARE FOR YOUR CLOTHES

CLEAN CORRECTLY: Follow labels when washing your clothes to keep them looking better and lasting longer.



STAIN REMOVAL: Discover what sort of care is best for the stain. Cold water, hot water or stain treatment? Some quick online research can save that garment you love.



CALL IN THE EXPERTS: Locate a good dry cleaner and tailor that can help keep your clothes clean and well-fitted.



USE THE DRYER SPARINGLY: High heat fades and shrinks material, and also breaks down elastic fibers in clothes, causing breakage and stretching. When possible, line or flat dry your clothes. If you must dry your clothes, use the lowest setting.



SIMPLE FIXES: Learn the simple but satisfying art of re-attaching a button, mending a tear or applying a patch.



CONSIDER COLD WATER: For most laundry, you can use cold water and less detergent than directed. This prevents exposure to excess heat or chemicals that contribute to fading or wearing out.

GROUP SIMILAR ITEMS AND TURN INSIDE OUT: When washing, turn jeans and graphic shirts inside out to prevent fading and wear. Wash similar items together (for example, all jeans) to prevent harsher fabrics from wearing on softer ones.



STEP 3: WEAR THOSE CLOTHES OFTEN AND FOR YEARS TO COME!

Every item in your closet has a cost-per-wear: the longer you wear that shirt or pair of jeans, the more you get out of your investment. A closet carefully stocked with several quality items will outlast a closet packed with poorly made, disposable clothes. So choose quality—you'll look good, save money and help care for our environment. And if you must retire an item of clothing, give it a second life by donating it to an organization that accepts previously worn clothing or sell it through a consignment shop.



<https://www.oregon.gov/deq/mm/wpcampaigns/Pages/Make-Every-Thread-Count.aspx>

Business solutions




Community solutions



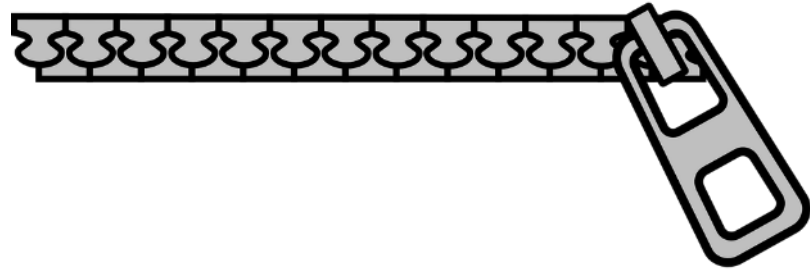
Open it up. See how it works. Hopefully fix it.

repair fair

REPAIR PDX

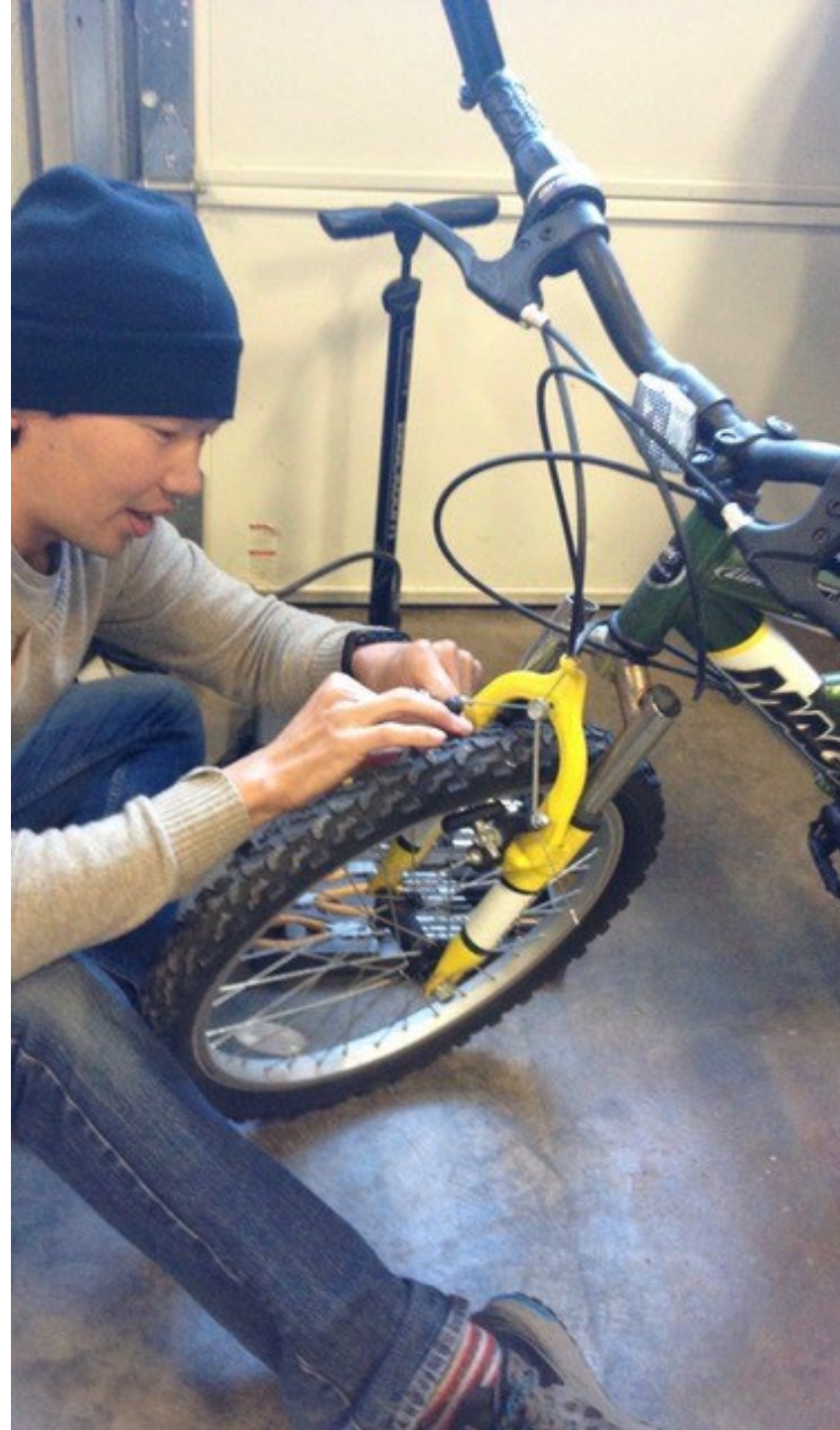
ton  Portland Repair Finder [Map](#) [Stories](#) [Events](#) [Resources](#)





What can be fixed at a
community repair
event?







Thank you

Questions?