



The Londoner's guide to repair

 London recycles

**Repair
Week**

12 - 17 October 2020

#RepairWeekLDN

Welcome

to London's first ever Repair Week!

Proudly brought to you by London Recycles.

Did you know that more than **two-thirds** of Londoners would repair more items if they knew how, and that **44%** don't know where to go to get items repaired?

This is exactly why we decided to launch **London's first annual Repair Week**. We've picked some of our favourite repair tips and hacks to feature in this guide, and if you flip to the back, you'll find a **mini directory** of places you can go to in London to get your things repaired - most of them small, local businesses which need your support more than ever due to Coronavirus lockdowns.

#RepairWeekLDN



Repair hacks

Recycling is great, but **to have the biggest effect on reducing waste**, we need to cut down on the amount of stuff we buy, **and maintain and repair the things that still have plenty of life left in them.**

We've selected some of our favourite **repair hacks** for you...

#RepairWeekLDN



ELECTRICALS

Repair Fact

Mobile phones are the most common item that Londoners get repaired.

Thanks to Currys PC World repair team for these tips:

PC running slow?

Give your hard drive space to breathe.

Try running a 'Disk Cleanup' (Windows) to remove leftover redundant files. Sort your files and folders in order of size using 'WinDirStat' (Windows) so you can see what's taking up the space.

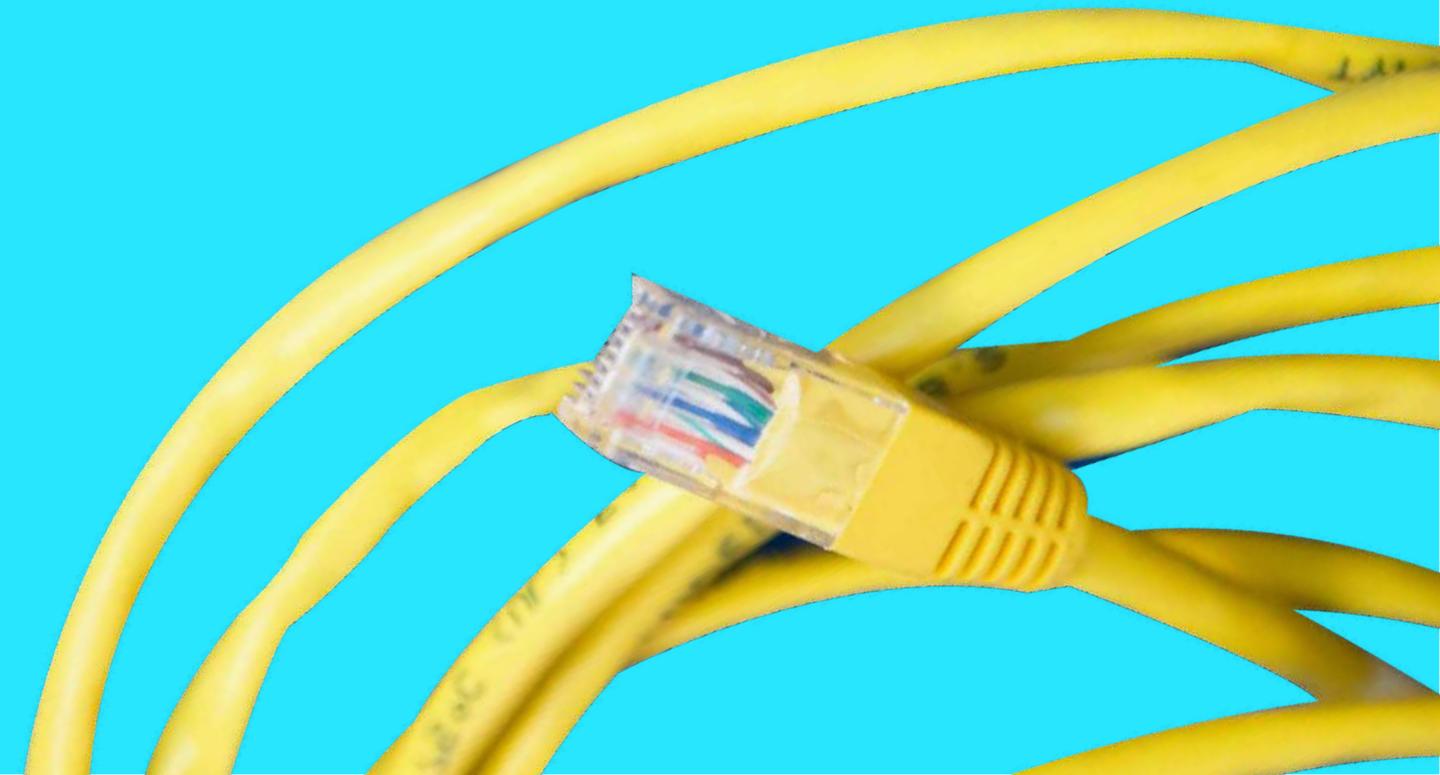
Currys  PC World

TV sound funny?

Try different sources:

DVD, set-top box, games console. If the problem only affects one source, then it's likely to be down to how that source is connected - check the cables and connections. If that fails, head to the factory reset to restore all the sound settings.

Currys  PC World



ELECTRICALS

Fuzzy TV picture?

It may be caused by interference.

Try putting a sheet of aluminium foil between any electronics that are stacked on top of each other (like your satellite receiver box, DVD player and games console).

Blocked headphone port on your smartphone?

Gently push a cotton bud into the port. Twist to wipe away grime and dirt.



TEXTILES

**Repair
Fact**

**11 million items of clothing end up
in landfill each year in the UK!**

Thanks to RubyMoon for the following tips:

Prolong the life of your activewear.

**Handwashing your swim and activewear will
make it last longer.**

Always wash in cold water (below 35C) as heat damages threads and weakens elastic. A 30-minute pre-soak in cold water and baking soda will help shift grime and dirt.

RUBYMOON

Let your swimwear relax.

After washing, lay your swimwear out flat to dry and then make sure you keep them in a shady, dark place, as exposure to light can cause colours to fade over time.

RUBYMOON



TEXTILES

Thanks to Save Your Wardrobe for these aftercare tips:

Bring your knitwear back to life.

Use a comb to de-pill your cashmere and wool clothes.

Do not pull the pills off with your fingers and do not use a razor or scissors as it damages the fiber. Instead, gently use a cashmere comb and your clothes will look as good as new.

Secret tip: Instead of washing them, put your cashmere and natural fiber clothes in the freezer for a couple of hours!

SAVE YOUR
WARDROBE

Is your suede worse for wear?

Use a nail file to remove dirt from suede.

File the suede shoes or bag in the areas of dirt or clouding to bring it back to life and remove the stains!

SAVE YOUR
WARDROBE



TEXTILES

And thanks to Super Looper for these great suggestions:

Freeze don't wash!

Only wash clothes when you absolutely have to.

Did you know that the best way to freshen up denim, gym wear or fluffy jumpers is to pop them into a bag and freeze them? This gets rid of bacteria and therefore any stale smells without damaging the fibres! Good for killing moth larvae too!



SuperLooper

Get out tough make-up stains.

Remove ink or make-up stains on cotton fabric with normal white toothpaste!

Rub a pea size piece on the stain, rinse and repeat as many times as you need until it's gone. It's also great for whitening trainers!



SuperLooper



TEXTILES

Toes poking out of your socks?

Don't throw them away, get darning! It's easier than you think, and if you don't have a darning egg, a tennis ball will work just as well.

Check out Socko (socko.shop) who are on a mission to get us mending our socks rather than throwing them away.

Socko has created some fantastic how-to guides to teach the lost art of darning, and every pair of socks they sell from their Originals collection comes with a swatch of contrasting colour yarn (it's all about visible mending) and a darning needle. Cozy!



Rubber midsoles of your trainers looking grubby?

Raid your stationery drawer, grab an eraser and get rubbing - they'll be white again in no time!

Fixing a hem can be easy!

Fixing a hem is super-easy and doesn't require any sewing skills. Just pick up some hemming tape from your local supermarket and use an iron to fix it in place.



HOMEGWARE

Repair Fact

90% of Londoners aged over 55 think we are losing repair skills that used to be commonplace.

Struggling to get paint off your hands?

Next time, rub Vaseline onto them before you pick up the brush or roller. The paint will slide off with ease.



Re-sealing a bath?

Replacing the silicone around a bath is a simple job. But make sure you half fill the bath with water first. The weight of the water will ensure the sealant won't crack when the bath is used later.

Can't remove an old screw?

If the screw-head looks damaged, try laying an elastic band over the top and press the screwdriver down onto the elastic band. It works!

HOMEGWARE



Fixing a dripping tap?

First thing you need to do is to put the plug into the sink - that'll stop screws and other small parts falling down the plug hole.

Sticky lock?

Draw onto the key with a pencil - get lots of graphite from the pencil lead onto the key; the more the better. Insert the key into the lock, give it a wiggle. Repeat if necessary until the lock frees up.

You've nailed it!

Always have nails and screws easily to hand when DIYing. Put a small magnet in your shirt pocket and hey presto - screws and nails will stick to you like magic!

BICYCLES

Repair Fact

Over two thirds (69%) of Londoners say they would repair more of their household items and possessions if they knew how.

Use toothbrushes on your chain.

Tape two old toothbrushes together (with the heads facing each other) and voila! A perfect tool for cleaning your bicycle chain.

Cleaning can save you money!

Bicycle chains and sprockets aren't cheap to replace, so save yourself some money by regularly cleaning and lubricating the chain, cogs and pedals. The more often you do it, the less time it takes.



BICYCLES

Think you've got a puncture?

Locate punctures by inflating the affected item (bicycle tyre, paddling pool, jumbo inflatable unicorn etc.) and submerging it under water. Look out for air bubbles which will indicate the exact spot of the puncture.

Invest in a torque wrench.

Bicycles are held together entirely by nuts and bolts. Regularly make sure they're all nice and tight, but not too tight or you'll damage the threads. To be sure, you could invest in a handy torque wrench.

Handlebars seen better days?

Re-wrapping them with handlebar tape is a really simple job and they'll look as good as new. Then move on to rewrap your tennis racket, badminton racket, squash racket...



FEELING INSPIRED?

We hope those tips, tricks and hacks have whetted your appetite for repair. Keep an eye on our [@londonrecyclesuk](#) social media channels during Repair Week for more handy do-it-yourself, three-step hacks.

Let us know your favourite, or share your own nuggets of wisdom, with our hashtag [#RepairWeekLDN](#)



And finally....

**When embarking on a repair job
remember to enjoy yourself!**

Embrace the challenges - mistakes are part of the learning process. Take your time, be kind to yourself and look forward to being able to say **'I did that!'**.

*As they say, life is about the journey,
not the destination...*



Repair directory

Here's our mini directory of **shops, community schemes and projects** you can go to in London to get your things repaired.

Don't forget to nominate your favourite local repair shop so we can continue to grow our directory! Tweet us **@londonrecycles** using the **#LondonRepairHeroes** hashtag, DM us on Facebook and Instagram **@londonrecyclesuk** or send us a message using the contact form on our website londonrecycles.co.uk/contact



Electricals

London repair shops

Name	Borough	Address	Contact details	More Info
The Net Store	Barking & Dagenham	701 Green Lane, Dagenham, RM8 1UU	Website: thenetstore.co.uk Email: netstorescan@hotmail.co.uk Phone: 020 8597 7026	Can repair laptops, phones, ipads
3 Gee's Electronics	Brent	141 Harrowdene Road, Wembley, HA0 2JH	Website: 3geeselectronics.com Email: info@3geeselectronics.com Phone: 020 8115 8670	Repair a wide range of electrical and household items
Automatica	Bexley	6 Station Road, Dartford, Kent, DA1 3QA	Website: automaticauk.co.uk Email: automatica-uk@supanet.com Phone: 01322 523 109	Repairing white goods and home appliances since 1964
Hackney Fixers	Hackney	Various venues across Hackney	Website: hackneyfixers.org.uk Email: info@hackneyfixers.org.uk Twitter: @hackneyfixers Facebook: @hackneyfixers	Run events where you can go along and learn more about repairs

Electricals

London repair shops

Name	Borough	Address	Contact details	More Info
iSmash	London	Stores all around london	Website: ismash.com	Express repair service for smartphones, tablets and computers
Waterloo Phones	Lambeth	108 Waterloo Road, SE1 8SG	Website: waterloophones.co.uk Phone: 020 3952 6392 Email: info@waterloophones.co.uk	Mobile phone, computer and laptop repair services and sales
Ani Appliances Sales and Repairs	Lambeth	228 Brixton Road, SW9 6AH	Website: aniappliances.co.uk Phone: 020 7274 7111 Facebook: @AniAppliancesSalesandRepairs	Home appliance repairs, installation and sales. In-home and in-shop repairs and installations services offered



Check out The Restart Project's electronic repair directory for businesses in north and east London.

Website: therestartproject.org/repairdirectory

Textiles

London repair shops

Name	Borough	Address	Contact details	More Info
The Sew London Project	Barking & Dagenham	62-76 Abbey Road, Barking, IG11 7BT	Website: sewlondonproject.co.uk Email: info@sewlondonproject.co.uk Phone: 07449 035 216	A social enterprise set up in 2015 to teach children and adults how to upcycle, sew and craft
Karolina Priscila	Brent	Covers the Queen's Park, Maida Vale and West Hampstead areas	Website: karolinapriscila.com Email: hi@karolinapriscila.com Instagram: @dressmaker_karolina Facebook: @karolina.priscila	From tailoring a perfect dress to repairing a moth-eaten jumper
Maz Tailoring	Ealing	13 Horn Lane, Acton, W3 9NJ	Website: maztailoring.com Phone: 020 8106 2536 Email: maztailoring@hotmail.com Instagram: @maztailors.uk	Tailoring and alteration services

Textiles

London repair shops

Name	Borough	Address	Contact details	More Info
Moody Bright Designs	Hackney		Website: moodybrightdesigns.co.uk Email: info@moodybrightdesigns.co.uk Instagram: @moodybrightdesigns Facebook: @moodybrightdesigns	DIY mending with embroidery
The Seam	Hackney	8 Median Road, Lower Clapton, E5 0PL	Website: theseam.uk Phone: 07845 701 951 Email: support@theseam.uk	Register as a seamstress or find one near you
Fabrications	Hackney	7 Broadway Market E8 4PH	Website: fabrications1.co.uk Phone: 020 7275 8043 Email: barley@fabrications1.co.uk Instagram: @fabricationshackney Facebook: @Fabrications	One-stop-shop for locally sourced, ethical knitting and sewing supplies, sell unique upcycled items and teach sewing.

Textiles

London repair shops

Name	Borough	Address	Contact details	More Info
Snow White Dry Cleaner	Islington	173 Holloway Road N7 8LX	Website: snowwhitedrycleaner.co.uk Phone: 020 7607 4598 Contact form: http://www.snowwhitedrycleaner.co.uk/contact Twitter: @snowhitedryc	Dry cleaner which also offers an alterations and repair service
Thimble	Kensington & Chelsea	24 Thackeray Street, Kensington, W8 5ET	Website: thimbletailoring.com Phone: 020 7938 1161 Email: taylor@thimbletailoring.com	Wide variety of clothing repairs including: seam mending, relining, restyling, repairing delicate vintage items
Fast Stitch	Kingston and Richmond	Three stores in Kingston and Richmond town centres	Website: fast-stitch.co.uk	Legendary local alteration and repairs service
Kokobina Clothing	Lambeth	11 Reliance Arcade, Brixton Road, SW9 8JZ	Phone: 020 7274 6314 Facebook: @kokobinabrixton	A small workshop offering garment repairs, alterations and bespoke clothes

Textiles

London repair shops

Name	Borough	Address	Contact details	More Info
Fairisle's Fix It	Lambeth	34 Norwood High Street, Norwood, SE27 9NR	Phone: 020 8676 4145 Email: fairisle@hotmail.co.uk Facebook: @FairislesFixIt	Clothing and textiles repair, alteration and remodelling services
Quality Stitch	Merton	281 The Broadway Wimbledon, SW19 1SD	Website: qualitystitchlondon.co.uk Phone: 020 8417 8366 Email: info@qualitystitchlondon.co.uk Facebook: @qualitystitchwimbledon Instagram: @stitchquality	High quality alterations and repairs to clothes
Vassos Shoe Repairs	Westminster	47 Church Street, Marylebone, NW8 8ES	Phone: 020 7224 9624	Shoe repair and clothes alterations
James of London	Westminster	32 Upper Tachbrook Street, Pimlico, SW1V 1SW	Phone: 020 7630 6596	Men's tailoring, alterations and repairs

Bicycles

London repair shops

Name	Borough	Address	Contact details	More Info
Sidcup Cycle Centre	Bexley	141 Station Road, Sidcup, DA15 7AB	Phone: 020 8300 8113 Email: info@sidcupcycles.co.uk Instagram: @sidcupcycles Facebook: @sidcupcycles	Founded in the 19th Century, as Chaz F Hill, Sidcup Cycle Centre has been a part of South East London's history for four generations
Cycletastic	Brent	Streatley Road, Kilburn, NW6 7ST (behind Advice 4 Renters, 36-38 Willesden Lane)	Website: cycletastic.org.uk Email: info@cycletastic.org.uk	Not-for-Profit voluntary organization for people of all ages. Provide bicycle repair, maintenance and opportunities to volunteer

Bicycles

London repair shops

Name	Borough	Address	Contact details	More Info
Cycle King	Brent	173 Hillside, Wembley, NW10 8LL	Website: cycleking.co.uk/ bike-shop-wembley Phone: 020 8965 5544 Facebook: @cyclekinguk Twitter: @cyclekinguk	Bike repairs and maintenance
Cloud 9 Cycles	Camden	38 Store Street, Bloomsbury, WC1E 7DB	Website: cloud9cycles.com Phone: 020 3205 0190 Email: info@cloud9cycles.com Instagram: @cloud9cycles	Full workshop that services all bikes, wheel building facilities, bike fitting and frame building
Cycle Confident	Operate across London	Various	Website: cycleconfident.com Phone: 020 3031 6730 Email: contact@cycleconfident.com	Provide some free cycling and maintenance courses in collaboration with local councils

Bicycles

London repair shops

Name	Borough	Address	Contact details	More Info
Beatroute Cycles	Ealing	Magenta Self Storage Acton, 54-58 Stanley Gardens, W3 7SZ	Website: beatroutecycles.com Phone: 07732 873 469 Email: info@beatroutecycles.com All Socials: @BeatrouteCycles	Specialise in bike and wheel building, maintenance training and top quality servicing
About the Bike	Hackney	124 Dalston Lane, E8 1NG	Website: aboutthebike.co.uk Phone: 020 7254 2513 Facebook: @dalstonbike Instagram: @aboutthebike	A practical bike repair and spares shop. Fix bikes and carry a huge range of components. Punctures repaired on the spot
Look Mum no Hands	Islington	49 Old Street, EC1V 9HX	Website: lookmumnohands.com Phone: 020 7253 1025 Email: info@lookmumnohands.com Facebook: @1ookmumnohands Instagram: @1ookmumnohands	Café, bar and bicycle workshop

Bicycles

London repair shops

Name	Borough	Address	Contact details	More Info
Cyclecare Kensington	Kensington & Chelsea	54 Earls Court Road, Kensington, W8 6EJ	Website: cyclecarekensington.myshopify.com Phone: 020 7460 0495 Email: cyclecarekensington54@gmail.com Facebook: @cyclecarekensington	Fully equipped bicycle workshop in the heart of Kensington, where all kinds of repairs and servicing can be performed
Brixton Cycles	Lambeth	296-298 Brixton Road, SW9 6AG	Website: brixtoncycles.co.uk Phone: 020 7733 6055 Email: sales@brixtoncycles.co.uk All Socials: @brixtoncycles	An independent workers' cooperative bike shop, offering repairs and sales
De Ver Cycles	Lambeth	632-636 Streatham High Road, SW16 3QL	Website: devercycles.co.uk Phone: 020 8679 6197 Email: devercycle@aol.com All Socials: @devercycles	Family bike shop, offering bicycle repair and service

Bicycles

London repair shops

Name	Borough	Address	Contact details	More Info
Moose Cycles	Merton	48 High Street, Colliers Wood, SW19 2BY	Website: moosecycles.com Phone: 020 8544 9166 Email: info@moosecycles.com Facebook: @MooseCycles Instagram: @MooseCycles	Independent bicycle dealer with full workshop servicing facilities
Fudges Cycle Store	Westminster	564-566 Harrow Road, W9 3QH	Website: fudgescyclestore.com	Independent, family-run business with three stores in London and Surrey

Homeware

London repair shops

Name	Borough	Address	Contact details	More Info
RePurpose Shop	Greenwich	Magpie House, 5 Magpie Lane, SE28 0FP	Website: repurposethat.org Phone: 020 8311 6680 Email: hello@repurposethat.org Facebook: @RepurposeThat Instagram: @repurpose.gbch	Sells repaired goods. All profits go to the Greenwich and Bexley Community Hospice
Restoration Station	Hackney	116-118 Shoreditch High Street, Hackney, E1 6JN	Website: www.sct.org.uk/social-enterprises/restoration-station/ Facebook: @recoverypathway Instagram: @spitalfieldscrypttrust	East London based charity that repairs furniture and offers training and support to people with drug or alcohol addictions and complex needs

Homeware

London repair shops

Name	Borough	Address	Contact details	More Info
Goldfinger Factory	Kensington & Chelsea	13-15 Golborne Road, W10 5NY	Website: goldfingerfactory.com Phone: 020 3302 0900, Email: info@goldfingerfactory.com Instagram: @goldfingerfactory	Educates people in craft and sustainable woodworking through the Goldfinger Academy
Kennington Upholster	Lambeth	122 Kennington Road, SE11 6RE	Website: kenningtonupholstery.com Phone: 07440 209 387 Email: info@kenningtonupholstery.com Facebook: KenningtonUpholsteryStudio Twitter: @Kennington_Upho	A Kennington based studio offering furniture restoration and bespoke upholstery services
Roseberry House Restoration	Lambeth	Based in Brixton	Website: roseberryhouse.co.uk Phone: 07971 965 261 Email: info@roseberryhouse.co.uk Facebook: @roseberryhouserestoration Instagram: @roseberryhouserestoration	Offering furniture repair and restoration on both modern and classic pieces

Homeware

London repair shops

Name	Borough	Address	Contact details	More Info
Able & Ryan Ltd	Merton	4 Merton Park Parade, SW19 3NT	Website: ableandryan.co.uk Phone: 020 8545 0655 Email: mail@ableandryan.co.uk All Socials: @ableandryan	Furniture restoration
Wimbledon Upholsterers	Merton	57A Queen's Road, SW19 8NY	Phone: 020 8543 2433	Furniture repair and restoration

Inclusion in this directory does not necessarily mean that providers or services are endorsed or approved.



Thank you!

for taking part in our first ever Repair Week.

We couldn't do it without you!

 London recycles

**Repair
Week**