Wear & Care

HOW DO I ENGAGE IN CLOTHING REPAIR?

PlaceLab

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING SPECIFIC YOU WANT TO GET REPAIRED?

- YES → **DO YOU WANT TO REPAIR THIS YOURSELF?**
- NO → **IS YOUR FOCUS ON LEARNING SKILLS YOURSELF?**

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- NO → EXPLORE!
- YES → **DO YOU HAVE SOME BASIC SUPPLIES TO DO REPAIRS WITH?**

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- YES → **DO YOU HAVE SOME BASIC SUPPLIES TO DO REPAIRS WITH?**
- NO → **DO YOU HAVE EXISTING SKILLS YOU WANT TO SHARE?**

DO YOU HAVE SOME BASIC SUPPLIES TO DO REPAIRS WITH?

- YES → **HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN?**
- NO → **HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN?**

DO YOU HAVE EXISTING SKILLS YOU WANT TO SHARE?

- YES → EXPLORE!
- NO → **DO YOU WANT TO BUILD REPAIR SKILLS IN YOUR COMMUNITY?**

DO YOU WANT TO BUILD REPAIR SKILLS IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

- YES → Great! Check out our guide to **'Unravel Community Clothing Repair'** in our PlaceLab 'Wear & Care' Activation Kit and get started with sharing your repair skills!
- NO → **Get inspired about clothing repair by checking out some amazing resources!**

E.g. To get you started:
- *'Modern Mending: Minimise Waste and Maximise Style'* by Erin Lewis-Fitzgerald.
- *'Mending Matters: Stitch, Patch, and Repair Your Favorite Denim & More'* by Katrina Rodabaugh.

EXPLORE!

EXPERT PLEASE! I'M NOT GOING TO REPAIR IT MYSELF, HOW CAN I FIND SOMEONE TO DO IT FOR ME?

Pros
- You're supporting a repair expert, organisation or business in your community.
- A professional finish for a complex repair.

Cons
- You miss out on gaining a new skill for yourself.
- You're investing in your community and this will come at a cost.

DECISION TIME

WOULD YOU LIKE TO ASK AN INDIVIDUAL OR FIND A REPAIR SERVICE?

- Ask an individual.
- Find a repair service.

DO YOU PERSONALLY KNOW A MENDER YOU CAN ASK?

- YES → **Brilliant! Why not ask for a quote or chat about a way to return the favour equally.**
- NO → ACTION

ACTION

Search for:
- local workshop instructors
- repair experts
- local repair networks

offering repair and alterations services to the community.
E.g. Local mender and textile artist, Tamara Russell at www.karhina.com/mending-commissions/

REFLECT

Do their services match the repair or alteration you would like?
E.g. Hemming pants, altering sleeve lengths.

- NO → ACTION
- YES → **Wonderful! Why not get in contact to chat about your repair or alteration and get a quote.**

ACTION

Search for:
- social enterprises
- local businesses
- organisations

offering repair and alterations services to the community.
E.g. Second Stitch.

REFLECT

Do their services match the repair or alteration you would like?
E.g. Hemming pants, altering sleeve lengths.

- YES → **Wonderful! Why not get in contact to chat about your repair or alteration and get a quote.**
- NO → ACTION

EXPLORE!

SOLO TRAVELLER - I'M A LONE RANGER AND WANT TO LEARN BY MYSELF.

Pros
- Go at your own pace and at times that suit you.
- Repair in your own space.

Cons
- Tricky mends can be made easier when shared with others.
- It may mean sourcing extra materials and equipment where needed.

DECISION TIME

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR SKILL LEVEL?

- I'm a first-time repairer, ready to learn.
- I've tried this before and picked up a few repair skills.
- I repair regularly, but would love to advance my repairs with new skills.

CAN YOU CHOOSE SOMETHING ELSE?

- YES → **FOR YOUR FIRST REPAIR, DO YOU HAVE A SIMPLE PROJECT IN MIND?**
- NO → **FOR YOUR FIRST REPAIR, DO YOU HAVE A SIMPLE PROJECT IN MIND?**

FOR YOUR FIRST REPAIR, DO YOU HAVE A SIMPLE PROJECT IN MIND?

- YES → **Search for simple online repair resources or mending books with basic, step-by-step guides or tutorials.**

If you're not sure on which skills, look at some repair books for inspiration.

E.g. Check out this video from the ABC with Renae Coles to get you started: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xaq3kwHGbDk

- NO → **Search for online repair resources or mending books with specific guides or tutorials based on the skills you'd like to learn.**

If you're not sure on which skills, look at some repair books for inspiration.

E.g. Check out the resource recommendations by local mender and textile artist, Tamara Russell at www.karhina.com.

EXPLORE!

SHARING IS CARING - I WOULD LOVE TO LEARN REPAIR WITH OTHERS.

Pros
- Machines and materials may be supplied to share.
- You'll be around others to get hands-on help and inspiration.

Cons
- Meeting times and spaces may not always work well for you.
- Some of your projects might require financial investment.

DECISION TIME

WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN IN A PAID, STRUCTURED WORKSHOP OR KEEP THINGS CASUAL IN A LOW-COST SOCIAL REPAIR SETTING?

- Invest in your learning.
- Low-cost community activity.

ACTION

Search for:
- social enterprises
- local workshop instructors
- organisations

offering repair and alterations workshops to the community.
E.g. Second Stitch, Thread Den or School of Sewing and Upcycling.

REFLECT

Do their workshops match the repair skills you would like to learn?

- NO → ACTION
- YES → **Fantastic! Why not get in contact and join a workshop.**

ACTION

Search for:
- community groups
- neighbourhood houses
- local repair networks

offering social or community repair sessions.
E.g. Brunswick Tool Library & Repair Cafe or Multicultural Women's Sewing Group.

REFLECT

Do their sessions match the repair skills you would like to learn?

- YES → **Brilliant! Why not get in contact and join a session.**
- NO → ACTION

EXPLORE!

I'M A PRO AND WANT TO SHARE MY KNOWLEDGE.

Pros
- You help support clothing repair in your community.
- You hone your repair skills in teaching others.

Cons
- It may mean sourcing extra materials and equipment to share with others.

DECISION TIME

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE YOUR REPAIR SKILLS?

- Paid roles.
- As a volunteer.
- Self organised.

ACTION

Search for:
- social enterprises
- local businesses
- organisations

offering repair and alterations services and workshops to the community.
E.g. Second Stitch, Thread Den or School of Sewing and Upcycling.

REFLECT

Do their services or workshops match your repair skills?

- NO → ACTION
- YES → **Excellent! Why not get in contact.**

ACTION

Search for:
- community groups
- neighbourhood houses
- local repair networks

offering social or community repair sessions.
E.g. Brunswick Tool Library & Repair Cafe or Multicultural Women's Sewing Group.

REFLECT

Do their classes or sessions match your repair skills?

- YES → **Excellent! Why not get in contact.**
- NO → ACTION

Check out other local repair experts for how you might run your own repair events.

E.g. See local mender and textile artist, Tamara Russell at www.karhina.com.