



# THRIFTING GUIDE

## A Resource for Secondhand Shopping



Designer and models at the annual Planet Runway Sustainable Fashion Show by Students for Environmental Action (SEA), Spring 2020.

The most sustainable purchase is one that isn't made at all, but your next best option is to buy secondhand!

Buying secondhand reduces the number of (perfectly usable) items reaching the landfill, and you save resources when you opt against buying something brand-new. Most thrift stores are filled with a vibrant assortment of unique and varied products, many of which are more durable than today's fast fashion and mass-production.

### DID YOU KNOW?

~**11.3 million** tons of textile waste is thrown away in the US each year, or ~**2,150** pieces of clothing each second. [Source](#)

**57%** of all discarded clothes ends up in the landfill, along with numerous other household items that are often still repairable and usable! *When landfills pile up, these items are incinerated, posing a major public health and environmental hazard on local communities as toxins are released into the air.* [Source](#)

*Fast fashion is just as bad as fast furniture!* According to the EPA, Americans throw out over **12 million tons** of furniture each year. This amounts to over **9 million tons** of waste wood, metal, glass, fabric, leather, and foam in the landfill. [Source](#)



# Physical Stores

## Abell

- The Book Thing, 3001 Vineyard Ln

## Charles Village

- Goodwill Retail Store and Donation Center, 3101 Greenmount Ave
- Get Shredded Vintage, 411 W 29th St
- Urban Vintage Junkees, 2427 St Paul St
- Ruth's Repeats, 2521 N Charles St
- Forever Alice Vintage Fashions, 3360 Greenmount Ave

## Mt Vernon

- Enigmatology, 815 N Charles St
- The Zone, 813 N Charles St
- Trezo Beach, 515 Cathedral St
- Bottle of Bread, 216 W Read St
- Keepers Vintage, 229 W Read St

## Hampden

- Changed My Mind Vintage, 1021 W 36th St
- Keepers Vintage, 805 W 36th St
- Vogue Revisited, 4002 Roland Ave
- Hunting Ground, 3649 Falls Rd
- Sixteen Tons, 1021 W 36th St
- Milk and Ice Vintage, 833 W 36th St
- Six2Six Society, 817 W 36th St
- Doubledutch Boutique, 1021 W 36th St

## Inner Harbor

- Goodwill, 715 S Broadway
- 1800 Seconds, 1924 Fleet St

## South Baltimore

- Second Chance Furniture, 1700 Ridgely St

## Towson

- Surprise Shop, 122 Allegheny Ave
- Goodwill, 1010 York Rd
- Plato's Closet, 1415 York Rd
- Ten Car Pile Up, 511 York Rd



Clothing swap station at the annual Planet Runway Sustainable Fashion Show by Students for Environmental Action (SEA), Spring 2020.

# Online

Shopping secondhand from the comfort of your device is just as easy as online shopping for something new. The following sites and apps host sellers and buyers of secondhand items alike.

## Websites & Apps

### Swap

Hand-inspected men's, women's, and children's clothing up to 90% off their original pricing. Shipping is free for orders over \$99 and you can return an item within 14-30 days.

### ThredUP

Women's and children's clothing up to 90% off the retail price, spanning 35,000 reputable brands. Take their online quiz to calculate your fashion footprint [here](#).

### Goodwill

You can find almost anything in a Goodwill store, from rollerblades to a floor lamp or a comfy denim jacket. And you can do the same online! Goodwill is guaranteed to offer affordable items.

### Beyond Retro

Affordable vintage men's and women's clothing. Free delivery for orders over \$170 and 14-day returns.

### Poshmark

Shop men's, women's, and children's clothing up to 70% off retail pricing, with 2-day Priority Mail shipping and personalised recommendations from stylists on the site.

### Depop

Connect directly with sellers of used clothing on Depop, where you can also find many flipped (altered) and original items!

### eBay

eBay's auction feature is a chance to find great clothes at a choice price, and it naturally filters out professional traders to highlight private sellers. Shop a variety of options, save searches to set alerts and be notified when a specific item you seek is available!

### Goodfair

Goodfair rescues clothes heading for the landfill, performs a quality-check, and rehomes them. Shop unique bundles of rescue clothes laundered, resized, and repurposed for new life.

### Etsy

Find curated thrift bundles, vintage wear, and flipped (altered and/or mended) items.

### Patagonia Worn Wear

Used Patagonia clothing, packs, and other gear for men, women, and children. Trade-in your own worn Patagonia products for store credit.

Stationery station at the Thrift Shop by Sustainable Hopkins Innovative Projects (SHIP), Fall 2021.





# Communities

## JHU Free and For Sale

A **Facebook** group just for students, alumni, and other affiliates of Hopkins: here you can find a range of items as students move in and out. The busiest times are May, August, and September.

## Johns Hopkins Textbook Exchange

A **Facebook** group just for students, alumni, and other affiliates of Hopkins where you can find used textbooks and other stationery items.

## Buy Nothing Hampden

Part of the Buy Nothing Project, this is a **Facebook** group of people living by the North side of the Homewood campus who give away unwanted goods for free. Good things go fast, and items must typically be picked up by the receiver.

## Hampden Yard Sale / Free Stuff

A buy/sell/give-away **Facebook** group for those who frequent the Hampden neighborhood. Items must typically be picked up by the receiver.

## Freecycle

The Freecycle Network ([freecycle.org](https://www.freecycle.org)) is a global, grassroots initiative to prevent usable items from reaching the landfill. Enter your city and browse or share items for free.



# Events

SHIP (Sustainable Hopkins Innovative Projects) hosts pop-up **Thrift Shops**, giving out clothes, stationery, accessories, and other miscellaneous items collected from students. Items are free, or sold for a small donation to local non-profits.

Every Spring, SEA (Students for Environmental Action) hosts **Planet Runway**, a Sustainable Fashion Show! The event spotlights student designers with thrifted outfits and altered wear, often accompanied by a clothes swap after the showcase.

Keep an eye out for the Thrift Shop, Planet Runway, and similar events through [HopkinsGroups!](#)



Backstage at the annual Planet Runway Sustainable Fashion Show by Students for Environmental Action (SEA), Spring 2020.

# HOW TO ENSURE YOUR THRIFTING IS ETHICAL & SUSTAINABLE

- Choose items from sellers in the same country when shopping online to *avoid the carbon cost of international shipping*.
- *Beware of resellers*; they make a profit buying from cheaper brick-and-mortar thrift stores and selling for a higher price online, taking away options from those who can only afford the cheaper option. If possible, try to buy from original sellers.
- Avoid thrifting in low-income neighborhoods or charity stores if you can afford to do so at other locations, so you *don't take away from those who cannot afford to shop elsewhere*.
- Thrift minimally; make sure to only buy what you need. *Thrifting is not exempt from overconsumption and disposal* - that part is on us!
- If possible, *leave high-need items to those who need them most*. Warm winter wear or professional clothes, for example, are necessities that some can only afford to buy second-hand.
- Don't forget to carry a *reusable bag and water bottle* to avoid single-use plastic and stay hydrated!



Clothes at the Thrift Shop by Sustainable Hopkins Innovative Projects (SHIP), Fall 2021.

Visit our [website](#) for more sustainable living tips and resources.