

## The waste hierarchy



Waste Minimisation Hierarchy

### How can you AVOID waste?

The best way to minimise the problems of waste is to avoid generating rubbish in the first place.

Think about whether you really need the product and avoid buying unnecessary products.



### How can you RECYCLE waste?



**Recycling involves breaking down the waste materials of a used product to make something new.**

- Use your local Council's recycling collection system.
- Take items such as cans and bottles to a drop off centre, often located in convenient public places like shopping centres.
- Recycle vehicle oils and batteries. Some service stations, car workshops and carcare stores accept lubricating oils for recycling. Some will also accept motor vehicle batteries for recycling. Some councils provide household collections of vehicle batteries.
- Mulch your garden lawn and clippings.
- Buy recycled products to create a market for products made with some recycled content.



### How can you REDUCE waste?



**Common ways of reducing rubbish are:**

- Choose products with minimum of packaging. Buy goods in bulk and in a concentrated form.
- Use durable and repairable products rather than short-life throwaways.
- Make the most of products by buying only as much as you need.
- Take your own bags when you go shopping and try not to use plastic bags.

### How can you REUSE waste?

**Think about new ways to re-use items and materials or pass them on to someone else who might have a use for them.**

- Reuse packaging, such as milk bottles, soft drink bottles and take-away food containers.
- Give household items, including clothes, furniture, books, toys and music to others who could use them.
- Reuse plastic bags within the house.
- Buy and sell items through garage sales, op shops, swap meets, the Quokka or newspaper classifieds.



