



DESIGN VENTURA 2021-22

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Sustainable Materials

These are examples of some sustainable materials recommended for Design Ventura and used as a materials library for Design Ventura workshops.



Cork

Cork is natural, renewable, recyclable and biodegradable. It is the bark from cork oak trees and can be harvested without harming the tree. It is a good alternative to textiles such as leather as well as plastics.

Example Product: [Cork Cactus](#), [SUCK UK](#) and [Cork Sunglasses Case](#)



Bamboo

Bamboo is biodegradable and renewable. As a material it is fast growing, versatile, strong and water resistant. As such, it works well for large objects such as flooring as well as small items such as coffee cups.

Example Product: [Kid's Bamboo Comb](#), [Zero Waste Club](#)



Felt

Felt is made from wool - making it biodegradable. It is strong, durability and lightweight, which makes felt a very versatile fabric.

Example Product: [Novelty Sheep Coaster](#) and [Holder](#)



Recycled Card

Recycled cardboard is used to make chipboard such as cereal boxes, paperboard, paper towels, tissues and printing or writing paper.

Example Product: [Scrap Paper Colouring Book](#) by [Scrap Pad](#)



Gum-Tec

Gumdrop Ltd collaborate with manufacturers and companies globally to make products from recycled and processed chewing gum.

Example Product: [Petal Pot](#) by [Weatherhead High School](#)



Smile Plastics

Smile Plastic transforms waste materials such as yoghurt pots into unique decorative panels for the architecture and design industry.

Example Product: [each year the Design Ventura trophy](#) is made out of [Smile Plastics](#)

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Products

These are some examples of products made from the materials listed above.

Cork Cactus by SUCK UK



Pin board shaped as a cactus you can pin things to it and keep knick-knacks in the terracotta pot. Supplied with a handful of pins that replicate spikes.

Materials: Cork and terracotta

Retail Price: £10.00

www.suck.uk.com

Cork Sunglasses Case



Collapsible sunglasses case made from cork.

Materials: Cork

Retail Price: £9.95

www.etsy.co.uk

Kids' Bamboo Toothbrush by Zero Waste Club



The bamboo handle is biodegradable and the bristles are recyclable by returning them to Zero Waste Club. The handles are handcrafted, so no two toothbrushes are the same.

Materials: Bamboo

Retail Price: £3.99

<https://z-w-c.com/>

Novelty Sheep Coaster Holder



Novelty coaster set shaped like a sheep and made of sheep's wool felt.

Materials: Felt and wood

Retail Price: £19.99

makespaceforthis.com

Scrap Paper Colouring Book by Scrap Pad



Scrap Pad teamed-up with Danish street artist Mormor to create a playful new colouring book from waste paper.

Materials: Paper and card

Retail Price: £12.00

<https://designmuseumshop.com>

Petal Pot by Weatherhead High School



Design Ventura 2017's winning product Petal Pot, is a plant pot that expands as the plant grows, reducing the waste of replacing pots. It is created using Gum Tec, a plastic made from recycled chewing gum.

Materials: Gum Tec

Retail Price: £12.00

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Further Links

In addition to thinking about using sustainable materials such as cork, felt, card and paper for your Design Ventura product idea, here is a list of links to suppliers and producers of materials that are mindful of sustainability.

Designers and Suppliers

Eco-Craft

Link: <https://www.eco-craft.co.uk/>

About: Eco-craft source products from reputable green suppliers. Most of the paper and card are 100% recycled and the majority contain a large proportion of post-consumer waste (ie. old brochures, print outs, etc.).

Chip[s] Board

Link: <https://www.chipsboard.com/>

A bio plastic made from waste potato from manufacturing, used to create eye ware, buttons and other accessories.

Gum-Tec

Link: <http://gumdropltd.com/gumtec/>

Designer: Anna Bullus

About: Gumdrop Ltd collaborate with manufacturers and companies globally to make products from recycled and processed chewing gum.

Smile Plastics

Link: <https://smile-plastics.com/>

Designer: Adam Fairweather and Rosalie McMillan

About: Smile Plastics use art and technology to unlock the hidden potential in recycling and open eyes to the unexpected beauty of scrap.

Piñatex

Link: <https://www.ananas-anam.com/>

About: Piñatex is a natural textile made from waste pineapple leaf fibre. It provides an environmentally friendly alternative to leather or PVC that can be used from fashion to furnishings.

AlgiKnit

Link: <https://www.algiknit.com/>

About: AlgiKnit Inc. is a biomaterials company integrating science and design into textile production. AlgiKnit create durable yet rapidly degradable yarns, to bring sustainable bio-based textile alternatives to the footwear and apparel industries.

Totomoxtle

Link: <http://www.fernandolaposse.com/projects/totomoxtle/>

Designer: Fernando Laposse

About: Totomoxtle is a material made with husks of heirloom Mexican corn. Totomoxtle focuses on regenerating traditional agricultural practices in Mexico and creating a new craft that generates income for local farmers.

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