

ELECTRONIC RECYCLING GUIDE

Everyone always has those leftover electronics - from out-of-date cell phones to old printers and computers. It's hard to know what to do with those old devices once we replace them with the latest technology. The good news is that recycling that old technology can be very easy - all it takes is knowing what to do and where to go. Check out the different sections below to see what the best practices are for recycling and places to take these different devices.



COMPUTERS



PRINTERS/ FAX



TELEVISIONS



CELL PHONES

SMALL
ELECTRONICS

COMPUTERS

What Can I Recycle?



Where Can I Recycle

Sources

COMPUTERS are one of the most valuable electronic devices to recycle; they are a gold mine for important metals and resources. These resources can be extracted from the computers and used on other items - making them ideal for recycling programs.

The best part is that recycling a computer only requires two steps:

1. Remove any data or personal information

It's important to remove any data or personal information from your computer before recycling it. This helps to prevent others from removing any of your personal information from the hard drive. This information can be stored in an external hard drive or cloud storage site for easy access afterwards.

2. Remove the computer's battery

Before recycling any computer it's important to make sure the lithium-ion battery is removed. The heavy metals inside of the battery can become dangerous during transportation and could short-circuit or start a fire if not recycled properly. Removing the battery ensures that it's not accidentally left inside while being transported to a recycling center.

The good news is that when you recycle the computer, you are also able to recycle any additional devices (such as extra computer mice, keyboards, speakers) as well!

💡 **MYTH: Old computers can just be thrown away.**

In at least half of the country, it is considered illegal to throw any type of electronics away, including computers because of the hazardous nature of the materials inside of a computer.



💡 **MYTH: You can just upgrade your computer rather than buy a new one.**

Although there are instances where you can upgrade your current computer to the new operating system, this is heavily dependent on the age of your computer. After a certain age, most software is no longer supported - meaning that its very difficult for any upgrades to occur.

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