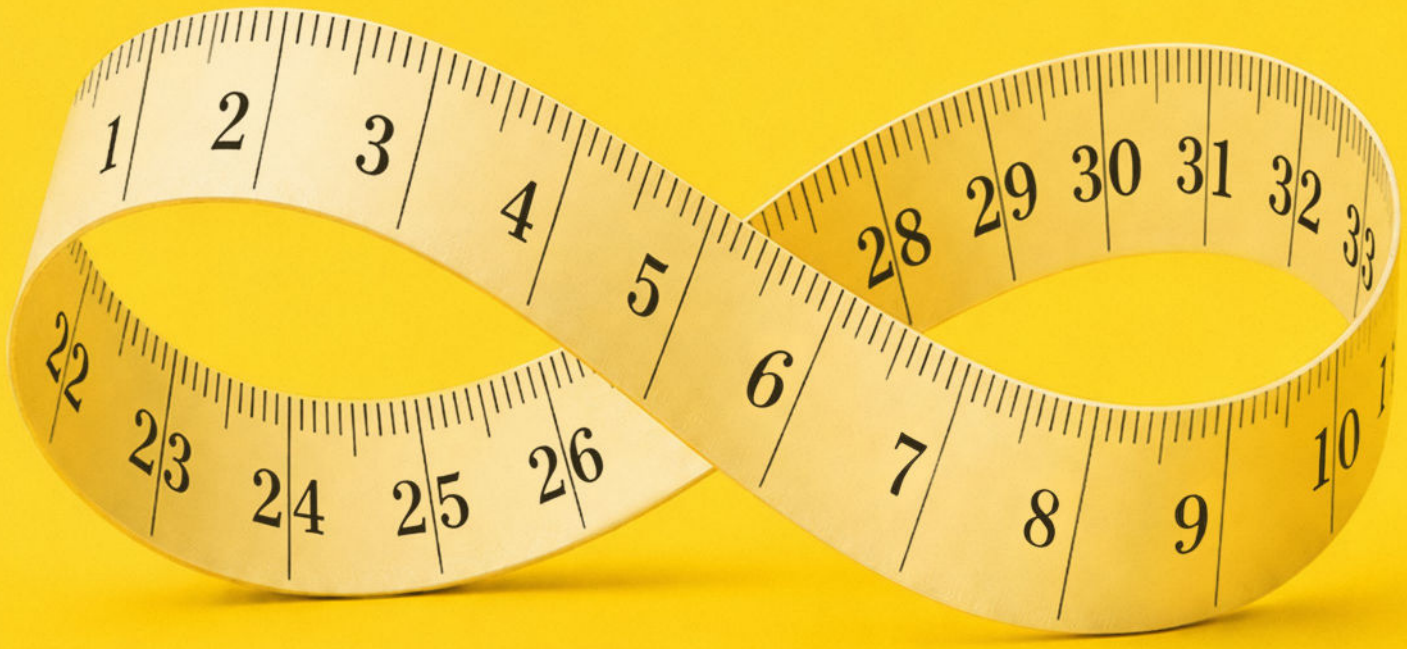
CIRCULAR FASHION TOOLKIT

A GUIDE FOR PRACTICE ACROSS DESIGN, USE AND RECOVERY FOR FASHION BUSINESSES IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA



DEVELOPED FOR THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FASHION INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

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Important notes

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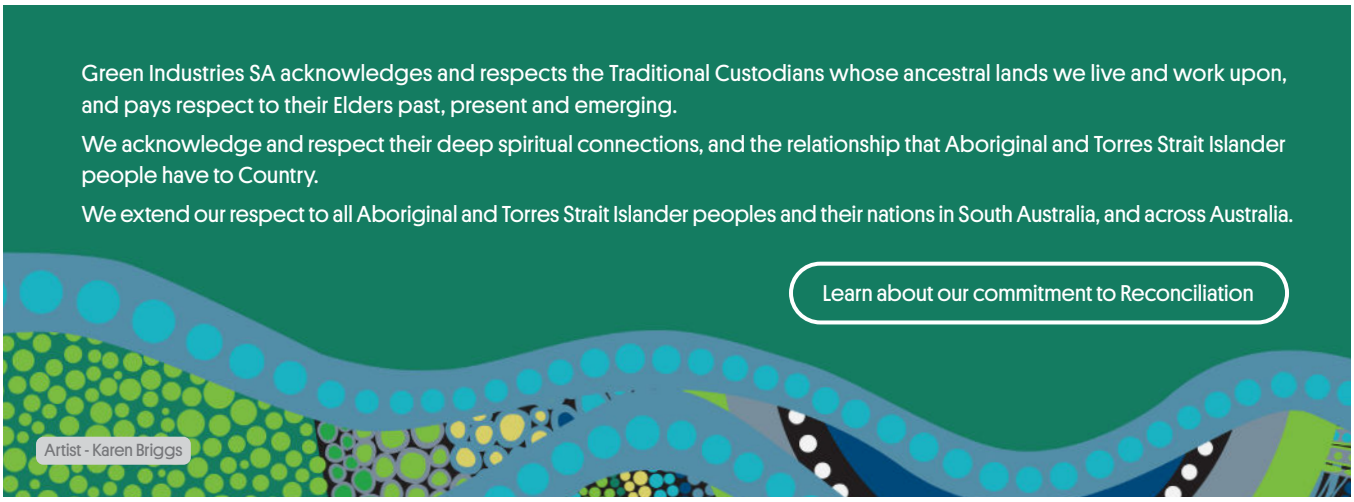

Foreword

When we began the *Circular Fashion Initiative* (CFI), our ambition was simple but significant: to translate the language of circularity from theory into practice for South Australian fashion businesses.

Sustainability can often feel overwhelming. It is filled with complex frameworks, global statistics, evolving regulation, and competing terminology. For many designers and business owners, especially small and medium enterprises, the question is not why sustainability matters, *but where do I begin?*

This toolkit exists to answer that question.

The South Australian fashion industry contributes an estimated $218 million annually to our state economy and supports thousands of skilled jobs across more than a thousand businesses.[1] It is an industry built on creativity, resilience, and entrepreneurial spirit. It is also an industry navigating increasing regulatory expectations, shifting consumer values, and global supply chain pressures.

Through the CFI, supported by Green Industries SA, SAFIA has worked alongside industry leaders, emerging designers, manufacturers, educators, and sustainability experts to build a foundation for practical circular change. We have listened carefully to the barriers businesses face, including cost pressures, time constraints, information overload, and uncertainty about what action truly makes a difference.

What became clear is this: big ideas need clear first steps.

This toolkit is a direct response to that need. It translates global frameworks such as the circular economy into language that makes sense for South Australian fashion businesses. It moves from principle to practice, offering simple audits, checklists, templates, and actions that can be implemented immediately, regardless of business size or turnover.

Circularity is about progression over perfection. It is about designing garments with longevity in mind, asking better questions of suppliers, choosing fibres more consciously, strengthening local repair ecosystems, and embedding resilience into our businesses.

This document is not intended to be read once and put aside. It is a working reference you can return to as your brand evolves. A framework to support decisions that are commercially sound and environmentally responsible.

The *Circular Fashion Initiative* represents more than a program. It signals a shift in how our state approaches fashion, not as a disposable commodity system, but as a sector capable of leadership in circular design, ethical practice, and long-term value creation.

If South Australia is to remain competitive in a rapidly changing global market, circular thinking will not be optional, but rather foundational. My hope is that this toolkit empowers you to begin (or to continue) your sustainability journey with confidence. The future of South Australian fashion will be shaped not by a single grand gesture, but by thousands of considered decisions made across studios, factories, showrooms, and workrooms throughout our state. This is your starting point.

Dr Nathan James Crane FDIA
Board Chair SAFIA

1 Deloitte Access Economics 2021, *Economic value of creative businesses in South Australia*, report prepared for the Department for Innovation and Skills, Government of South Australia, Adelaide, viewed 10 August 2026, <https://dpc.sa.gov.au/responsibilities/economic-insight-and-evaluation/DIS-creative-industries-final-report.pdf>.

Foreword

South Australia has a proud record of environmental leadership, and our next step is to accelerate the transition from the traditional 'take, make, waste' model to a circular economy. Fashion has an important role in that transition. Circular fashion keeps garments and materials in use for longer through better design, careful material choices, repair, reuse and responsible recovery.

Circular fashion is both an environmental responsibility and an economic opportunity. When garments are designed to last and their end-of-use is considered from the beginning, businesses can reduce waste, retain value, encourage innovation and strengthen their resilience. These actions will also help South Australia work towards its ambition of doubling the state's circularity rate by 2035.

Green Industries SA is pleased to support this Circular Fashion Toolkit, developed for the South Australian Fashion Industry Association. Its strength lies in its practical focus. It brings together guidance, examples and ready-to-use tools across design, in-use and end-of-use, helping businesses assess their current practices, identify achievable opportunities and develop a clear action plan.

No single business can make this transition alone. Progress will depend on collaboration among designers, manufacturers, retailers, suppliers, recyclers, researchers, government and consumers. I acknowledge the South Australian Fashion Industry Association for its leadership and the businesses and contributors whose knowledge and experience have helped shape this resource.

I encourage fashion businesses across our state to use this toolkit, begin with the actions that make sense for them and continue building from there. Together, we can strengthen a creative and competitive fashion industry while helping South Australia become more circular, resilient and prosperous for generations to come.

Emily Bourke
Minister for Climate, Environment and Water
Minister for Tourism

Contents

Foreword	03
Acronyms	06
Glossary	07
Part 1 Introduction to the Circular Economy & Toolkit Overview	**08**
1. The Circular Fashion Toolkit	09
1.1 What is the Circular Economy?	09
1.2 About This Toolkit	10
1.3 SA's Transition to a Circular Economy	11
2. Linear vs Circular Fashion	13
2.1 The Problem with Linear Fashion	13
2.2 Links to Climate and Environment	13
3. Key Drivers & Barriers to Circularity	15
3.1 Why Now?	15
3.2 The Circular Business Case	16
3.3 Navigating Challenges	17
Part 2 Practical Examples of Circularity in Fashion	**18**
4. Introduction to Part 2	19
5. Design Phase: Designing for Circularity	20
5.1 Material Selection	21
5.2 Design Principles	24
6. In-Use Phase: Product Life Extension	27
7. End-of-Use: Circular Pathways	29
8. Textile Recyclers Directory	31
9. Opportunities to Navigate Challenges	32
Part 3 Tools and Resources to Support Circular Fashion Brands	**34**
10. Case Studies	35
11. Tools & Templates	38
Investigation 1: Circularity Baseline Assessment	39
Investigation 2: Shortlisting Circular Opportunities	43
Investigation 3: Developing your Action Plan	44
Fibre Characteristics Matrix	45
Links to Further Information and Resources	46

Acronyms

Acronym	Meaning
AFC	Australian Fashion Council
APCO	Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation
CO_2-e	Carbon dioxide equivalent
DPP	Digital Product Passport
ESPR	Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation
EU	European Union
F2F	Fibre to Fibre
GISA	Green Industries SA
GRS	Global Recycled Standard
MMCF	Manmade Cellulosic Fibre
RCS	Recycled Claim Standard
rPET	Recycled Polyester
SAFIA	South Australian Fashion Industry Association

Glossary

Term	Definition
Aged inventory	Stock that remains unsold after its intended selling period.
Circular economy	An economic model that keeps products and materials in use for as long as possible through design, reuse, repair, recycling and recovery.
Circular fashion	Circular fashion is a model in which clothing and garments are kept in use for as long as possible, and waste is minimised.
Closed-loop recycling	A recycling pathway where unwearable garments are converted back into new garments.
Deadstock fabric	Surplus, unused or overstock fabric left over from production or ordering that can be redirected into new products instead of becoming waste.
Greenhouse gas emissions	Gases in the atmosphere including carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide that trap heat from the sun and contribute to climate change.
Microplastics	Plastic particles that can be released from synthetic textiles during production, use and washing.
Mono-material	A material made from a single fibre type.
Open-loop recycling	A recycling pathway where garments are converted into a different product type or market, such as insulation, or rags.
Post-consumer	Materials or products that have been used by a consumer.
Pre-consumer	Materials or products prior to reaching a consumer, such as manufacturing offcuts or aged inventory.
Product stewardship	An approach that holds producers responsible for the environmental impact of their products across their entire lifecycle, from design and production through to end-of-use. These can be voluntary or mandatory.
Reuse	Using a product again for its intended purpose, either by the same user or a new user.
Scope 3 emissions	Indirect greenhouse gas emissions that occur across a business's value chain, including upstream and downstream activities, excluding purchased electricity.
Take-back scheme	A system that allows customers to return used products to a brand for reuse, repair, recycling or responsible end-of-use management.
Unwearable	A garment that can no longer be worn for its original purpose and requires recycling, recovery or other responsible end-of-use management.
Virgin materials	Newly produced raw materials that have not previously been used or recycled.
Wearable	A garment that can be worn again in its current form, with or without minor repair, and is suitable for reuse or resale.

PART 1
INTRODUCTION TO THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY & TOOLKIT OVERVIEW

1 The Circular Fashion Toolkit

> France's leading clothing retailer is a second-hand marketplace.

Vinted, a second-hand marketplace, now sells more clothing in France, by volume, than any other brand or retailer.[2] It's not an anomaly. The global second-hand fashion and luxury market is projected to grow three times faster than the firsthand market through to 2030.[3]

Consumer behaviour and market conditions are shifting. Businesses that engage with circularity now will be better placed to respond to the changes ahead. This toolkit is designed to help.

1.1 What is the Circular Economy?

The dominant model in fashion is linear: take raw materials, make a product, dispose of it. It is a system characterised by high production and consumption and is increasingly recognised as not fit for purpose.[4]

The circular economy offers a different model. Rather than extracting value from materials once, it maximises the value of what is already made by keeping products and materials in use for as long as possible through designing for longevity, repair, reuse, and recycling. Circularity measures how well these materials are kept in circulation, reducing the need for virgin materials. This transition can reduce emissions, pollution, and biodiversity loss, while supporting employment and economic activity.[5]

For fashion specifically, circularity means reconsidering decisions at every stage: how a garment is designed, what happens during a customer's ownership of it, and what happens at the end of its use.

There are three core principles:

1. Design out waste and pollution
2. Keep products and materials in use at their highest value
3. Conserve natural resources and regenerate nature.[6]

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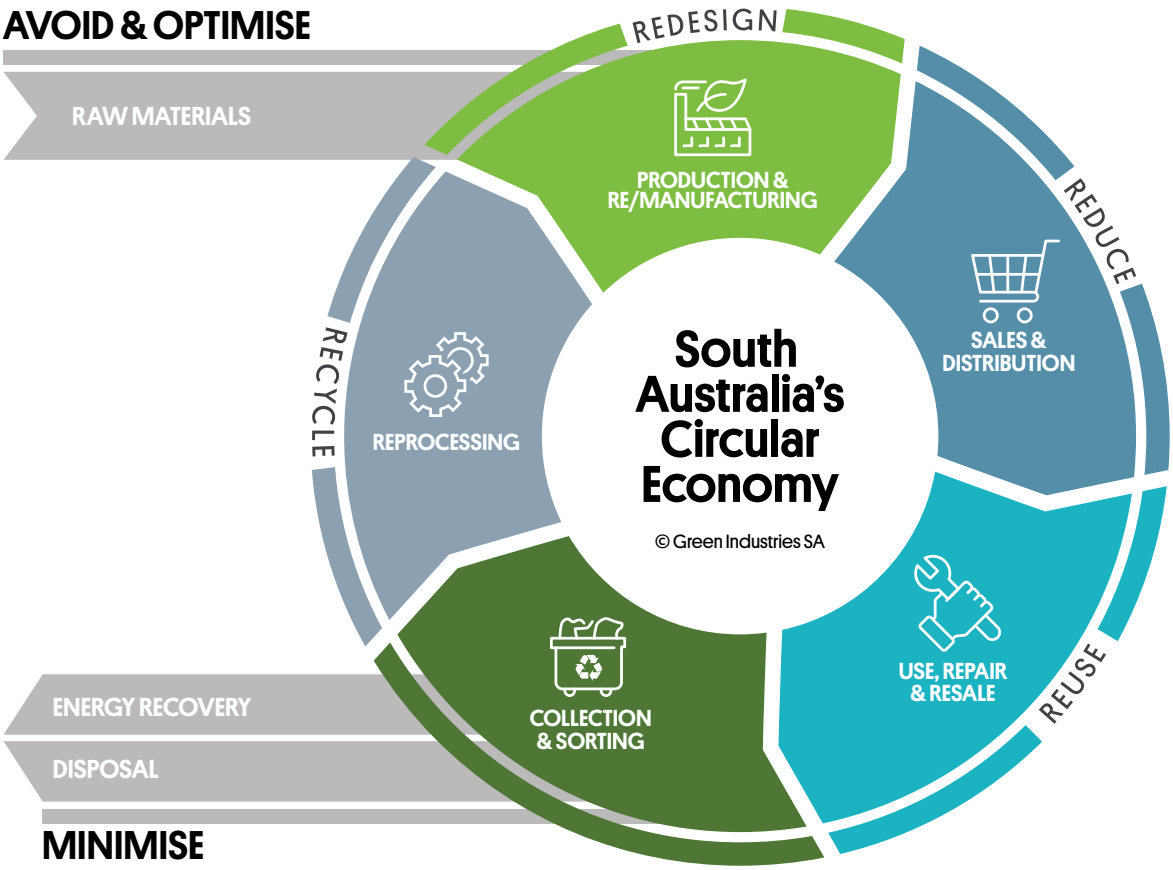
2 Based on 2025 data from the French Fashion Institute (IFM), source: Ecommerce News 2025, *Vinted is the leading clothing retailer in France*, viewed July 2026, <https://ecommercenews.eu/vinted-is-the-leading-clothing-retailer-in-france/>.
3 BCG 2025, *Resale's Next Chapter: How Fashion and Luxury Brands Can Win in the Secondhand Market*, viewed July 2026, <https://www.bcg.com/publications/2025/how-fashion-luxury-brands-can-win-secondhand-market>.
4 Ellen MacArthur Foundation 2019, *Fashion and the circular economy — deep dive*, Ellen MacArthur Foundation, viewed July 2026, <https://www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/fashion-and-the-circular-economy-deep-dive>.
5 Green Industries SA 2025, *Accelerating SA's transition to a circular economy: South Australia's waste strategy 2025–2030*, viewed July 2026, <https://www.greenindustries.sa.gov.au/documents/sas-circular-economy-strategy-2025-2030.pdf>.
6 Ellen MacArthur Foundation n.d., *Circular economy introduction*, viewed July 2026, <https://www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/topics/circular-economy-introduction/overview>.

Figure 1: Green Industries SA



1.2 About This Toolkit

The Circular Fashion Toolkit was developed by Rawtec for the South Australian Fashion Industry Association (SAFIA) and funded by Green Industries SA to support the growth of circular fashion in South Australia. While this toolkit has been developed primarily for South Australian fashion brands and SAFIA members, much of the content is relevant to brands beyond South Australia and to other clothing sectors (e.g. uniforms).

- **Part 1** introduces circular economy and circular fashion concepts and explains why circularity matters for the fashion sector.
- **Part 2** outlines practical steps businesses can take across the three stages of a product's life: design, in-use, and end-of-use.
- **Part 3** contains case studies, tools, and resources including templates to help you assess your starting point, identify circular opportunities, and develop an action plan.

This toolkit provides general advice, suggestions and resources to help businesses improve circularity. Rather than prescribing what is right or wrong, it is intended to support businesses to identify practical circular actions aligned with their business goals. This toolkit recognises that circularity is not one-size-fits-all, and that businesses must balance circular opportunities with other competing priorities. As with any general guidance, businesses should consider their own circumstances when deciding which actions are appropriate for them.

1.3 SA's Transition to a Circular Economy

> South Australia has a current circularity rate of 4.4%.[7]

A circular economy is no longer an emerging concept in South Australia. It is now state policy. In 2025, the South Australian Government released their waste strategy: '*Accelerating SA's transition to a circular economy: South Australia's waste strategy 2025–2030*[8]. It outlines key strategies and targets set for the state, with an overarching goal to double its circularity rate by 2035.

The goals, targets and focus areas most relevant to the fashion industry include:

Table 1: Summary of the South Australia Government's circular economy goals, targets, and focus areas[7]

Overarching Goal:	Double SA's circularity rate by 2035
Targets:	10% reduction in material footprint by 2025
	30% increase in material productivity
	10% reduction in total waste generated per person by 2030
	Maximise material circularity
	Increase circular consumption activities
Focus Areas:	Avoid waste
	Reduce material loss and preserve value
	Address emerging and problematic waste
	Develop and support circular markets and businesses
	Develop circular economy knowledge and skills
	Measure our transition to a circular economy
	Contribute to net zero emissions

7 Australian Bureau of Statistics 2024, *Circular economy*, viewed July 2026, <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/measuring-what-matters/measuring-what-matters-themes-and-indicators/sustainable/circular-economy>.
8 Green Industries SA 2025, *Accelerating SA's transition to a circular economy: South Australia's waste strategy 2025–2030*, viewed July 2026, <https://www.greenindustries.sa.gov.au/documents/sas-circular-economy-strategy-2025-2030.pdf>.

To put that ambition in context: South Australia currently has a circularity rate of just 4.4%.[9] Doubling it will require a meaningful change in how products are designed, consumed, and recovered across every relevant industry, fashion included.[10]

The South Australian Government, through Green Industries SA, has identified a range of initiatives to support the transition to a more circular economy. This includes:

- **Support and investment:** Green Industries SA plans to invest in activities that achieve high circularity outcomes, support market development for circular products and services, and support the establishment of circular precincts.
- **Public procurement:** The SA government plans to use its purchasing power to create demand for recycled and circular products, helping to strengthen circular economy markets and reduce environmental impacts.
- **Research and innovation:** Green Industries SA plans to encourage and support research and innovation across the circular economy, from designing products for reuse and recycling to developing new recovery methods, markets, business models and digital solutions.[11]

These policy targets and business support programs demonstrate South Australia's commitment to making the circular transition a reality.

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9 Australian Bureau of Statistics 2024, *Circular economy*, viewed July 2026, <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/measuring-what-matters/measuring-what-matters-themes-and-indicators/sustainable/circular-economy>.

10 Ellen MacArthur Foundation n.d., *Circular economy introduction*, viewed July 2026, <https://www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/topics/circular-economy-introduction/overview>.

11 Green Industries SA 2025, *Focus area 5: Develop and support circular markets and businesses*, viewed July 2026, <https://www.greenindustries.sa.gov.au/strategy-focus-area-5>.

2 Linear vs Circular Fashion

Understanding what circular fashion looks like in practice starts with examining what it replaces.

2.1 The Problem with Linear Fashion

> In Australia, more than 200,000 tonnes of clothing are sent to landfill each year.[12]

Currently, the fashion industry is largely linear, resulting in significant material loss. Every year in Australia, over 200,000 tonnes of clothing are sent to landfill.[11] Every garment that ends up in landfill represents a value loss for both producer and customer, and a missed opportunity to recover valuable materials.[13] Yet material recovery remains rare. Less than 1% of the world's clothing is recycled back into new clothing.[14]

2.2 Links to Climate and Environment

> Australia is one of the largest consumers of textiles per capita.[15]

Globally, fibre production has almost doubled over the last 20 years, while consumers are keeping garments for shorter periods of time.[16] The United Nations notes, "at the beginning of this century, we bought almost half as much and kept clothes for twice as long".[17]

This growth in fibre production and consumption comes at an environmental cost. The fashion industry is responsible for an estimated 2-8% of total global carbon emissions. Projections suggest that this could increase to 26% by 2050 without intervention.[15] The industry is also the second largest consumer of water[15] and accounts for approximately 20% of global water waste through dyeing and finishing processes.[18]

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12 Seamless 2025, *2024 Australian Clothing Benchmark*, viewed July 2026, <https://www.seamlessaustralia.com/news/2024-australian-clothing-benchmark>.
13 Ellen MacArthur Foundation n.d., *Keeping fashion and textiles in use*, viewed July 2026, <https://www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/topics/fashion/overview>.
14 Ellen MacArthur Foundation 2021, *#WearNext: Make fashion circular*, viewed July 2026, <https://www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/articles/wearnext>.
15 Gbor, N & Chollet, O 2024, *Textiles waste in Australia Reducing consumption and investing in circularity*, The Australia Institute, viewed July 2026, <https://australiainstitute.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/The-Australia-Institute-Textiles-Waste-In-Australia-Web.pdf>.
16 Geneva Environment Network 2026, *Environmental Sustainability in the Fashion Industry*, viewed July 2026, <https://www.genevaenvironmentnetwork.org/resources/updates/sustainable-fashion/>.
17 UN Environment Programme 2023, *Wasted: Fast fashion is fueling our ecological crisis*, YouTube video, viewed July 2026, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0v7f0KeNpv8&t=12s>.
18 Frontiers in Sustainability 2025, *Exploring factors shaping consumer behaviour towards circular fashion: a focus on Generations Y and Z*, viewed July 2026, <https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/sustainability/articles/10.3389/frsus.2025.1630453/full>.

In 2024, the Australian fashion industry alone generated 14.5 million tonnes of CO_2-e, which is equivalent to the annual electricity use of 4.8 million Australian households. Water use for the same period was 1.8 billion cubic metres of water, which is equivalent to approximately 720,000 Olympic-sized swimming pools.[19]

Beyond carbon emissions and water use, the materials used in textiles also create environmental concern. Around 60% of the materials used by the fashion industry are plastic-based. These materials further contribute to greenhouse gas emissions and release significant quantities of microplastics.[20] Globally, synthetic textiles are estimated to contribute between 16% and 35% of microplastics released to the oceans, through production, use and washing.[21]

Australia is one of the largest consumers of textiles per capita[22], meaning that Australians have an opportunity to play a key role in shifting the industry toward practices that have less of an impact on our climate and environment.

Circular fashion

The problems with linear fashion highlight the need to improve how garments are designed, made, used and recovered. Prioritising circularity can help reduce carbon emissions, water use and microplastic pollution. It can also support keeping textiles in use for longer, reduce waste and retain the value of materials over time.

Circular fashion is a model in which clothing and garments are kept in use for as long as possible, and waste is minimised. In practice, circular fashion involves prioritising products that are:

- Made to be used more
- Made to be made again
- Made from recycled or renewable materials[23]

Circular fashion is explored in more detail in Part 2 of this toolkit, which outlines practical approaches across the design, in-use and end-of-use stages.

19 Seamless Australia 2025, Environmental impact of the Australian clothing industry 2024, Seamless, viewed July 2026, <https://cdn.prod.website-files.com/6626f3b6b75e22631bdf7c57/693aac5902ecc31ca4637f10_Environmental-Impact-Australian-Clothing-Industry-2024.pdf>.
20 Geneva Environment Network 2026, *Environmental Sustainability in the Fashion Industry*, viewed July 2026, <https://www.genevaenvironmentnetwork.org/resources/updates/sustainable-fashion/>.
21 European Environment Agency 2022, *Microplastics from textiles: towards a circular economy for textiles in Europe*, European Environment Agency, viewed 30 July 2026, <https://www.eea.europa.eu/en/analysis/publications/microplastics-from-textiles-towards-a-circular-economy-for-textiles-in-europe>.
22 Gbor, N & Chollet, O 2024, *Textiles waste in Australia Reducing consumption and investing in circularity*, The Australia Institute, viewed July 2026, <https://australiainstitute.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/The-Australia-Institute-Textiles-Waste-In-Australia-Web.pdf>.
23 Ellen MacArthur Foundation 2021, *Our vision of a circular economy for fashion*, Ellen MacArthur Foundation, viewed July 2026, <https://www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/our-vision-of-a-circular-economy-for-fashion>.

3 Key Drivers & Barriers to Circularity

3.1 Why Now?

> Circular fashion is moving from a niche concept to a business expectation.

The transition to circular fashion is already underway. Second-hand marketplace Vinted has become the largest clothing retailer, by volume, in France[24] and the global second-hand fashion and luxury market is projected to grow three times faster than the firsthand market through to 2030.[25]

Consumer behaviour research suggests that willingness to engage with circularity is high, and consumer expectations for sustainability are evolving. A 2025 study of Generations Y and Z, drawing on 408 survey responses from participants across developing and developed countries, found that 89% of respondents would change their purchasing, usage, and disposal behaviour if fashion brands actively applied circular principles. Additionally, 58% said they would be willing to pay a higher price for circular fashion items. The study also found that purchasing decisions were driven by product quality and durability.[26]

The industry is also being reshaped by current and emerging regulation. The European Commission has introduced the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR), with textiles and apparel identified as a priority category. Under this regulation, Digital Product Passports (DPPs) will be a legal requirement. These passports serve as a product's digital identity, providing information across its lifecycle, commonly in the form of QR codes or digital labels.

Although DPPs are not required in Australia as of July 2026, Australian businesses exporting to the EU will need to comply with future EU requirements. Delegated acts for textiles are expected in 2027 and will specify data requirements. These may include information on material composition, production location, supply-chain information, environmental impact, and guidance on reuse, repair or recycling.[27]

24 Based on 2025 data from the French Fashion Institute (IFM), source: Ecommerce News 2025, *Vinted is the leading clothing retailer in France*, viewed July 2026, <https://ecommercenews.eu/vinted-is-the-leading-clothing-retailer-in-france/>.
25 BCG 2025, *Resale's Next Chapter: How Fashion and Luxury Brands Can Win in the Secondhand Market*, viewed July 2026, <https://www.bcg.com/publications/2025/how-fashion-luxury-brands-can-win-secondhand-market>.
26 Abdelmeguid, A, Afy-Shararah, M & Salonitis, K 2025, 'Exploring factors shaping consumer behaviour towards circular fashion: a focus on Generations Y and Z', *Frontiers in Sustainability*, viewed July 2026, <https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/sustainability/articles/10.3389/frsus.2025.1630453/full>.
27 Seamless 2025, *Digital product passports explained*, Seamless, viewed July 2026, <https://www.seamlessaustralia.com/news/digital-product-passports-explained>.

Australia's clothing stewardship scheme, Seamless:

Seamless is Australia's first national clothing and textile product stewardship scheme. As of July 2026, the scheme is voluntary where brands sign up to pay Seamless 4 cents ($0.04) per every garment sold, to fund local circular initiatives. This enables brands to take responsibility for their products across their entire lifecycle.

Seamless has a target of making the Australian fashion industry fully circular by 2030 and reducing the amount of clothing and textiles currently sent to landfill.[28] Seamless has also advocated for stronger product stewardship settings, such as a mandatory scheme, to appropriately fund a collection, sorting, and recycling system in Australia.[29] This reflects growing momentum toward a more coordinated industry-wide approach.

3.2 The Circular Business Case

In South Australia, the fashion industry makes an important contribution to the community and economy. A 2021 South Australian Government report estimated that the sector included more than 1,000 businesses, supported over 2,500 full-time equivalent jobs and contributed more than $200 million in gross value added.[30] The circular economy presents an opportunity to strengthen this contribution by supporting future growth and creating additional value from products and materials.

For individual businesses, embedding circular practices can deliver direct benefits, including:

Alignment with consumer preferences: Consumer expectations for sustainability are evolving, and many consumers are willing to pay more for circular fashion items.[31] Circular initiatives can help businesses respond to evolving consumer expectations for sustainability by demonstrating a commitment to reducing environmental impacts.

Alignment with upcoming policy and regulation: Governments are actively supporting the transition to a circular economy.[32] By embedding circular practices now, businesses can prepare for future policy and regulatory changes and reduce compliance and market access risks.

Reduced environmental impacts: By designing out waste and keeping materials in use for longer, businesses can reduce the volume of products and materials sent to landfill, lower their environmental impact, and help address scope 3 emissions[33] associated with materials throughout their lifecycle.[34]

28 Seamless n.d., *About us*, Seamless, viewed July 2026, <https://www.seamlessaustralia.com/about-us>.
29 Seamless 2026, *Seamless calls for mandatory clothing stewardship in Australia*, Seamless, viewed July 2026, <https://www.seamlessaustralia.com/news/seamless-calls-for-mandatory-clothing-stewardship>.
30 Deloitte Access Economics 2021, *Economic value of creative businesses in South Australia*, Department for Innovation and Skills, Government of South Australia, viewed July 2026, <https://www.dpc.sa.gov.au/responsibilities/economic-insight-and-evaluation/DIS-creative-industries-final-report.pdf>.
31 Abdelmeguid, A, Afy-Shararah, M & Salonitis, K 2025, 'Exploring factors shaping consumer behaviour towards circular fashion: a focus on Generations Y and Z', *Frontiers in Sustainability*, viewed July 2026, <https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/sustainability/articles/10.3389/frsus.2025.1630453/full>.
32 Green Industries SA 2025, *Accelerating SA's transition to a circular economy: South Australia's waste strategy 2025–2030*, viewed July 2026, <https://www.greenindustries.sa.gov.au/documents/sas-circular-economy-strategy-2025-2030.pdf>.
33 Scope 3 emissions are the indirect greenhouse gas emissions that occur across a business's value chain, including upstream and downstream activities, and excluding electricity use.
34 Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water 2024, *Australia's circular economy framework*, Australian Government, viewed July 2026, <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/australias-circular-economy-framework.pdf>.

3.3 Navigating Challenges

While there are many benefits to embedding circular practices, there are also challenges with implementation. These can include:

- Costs associated with introducing circular practices
- Costs of procuring sustainable materials
- Limited resourcing as a small fashion brand
- Limited knowledge of how to embed circularity within a business
- Lack of supply chain transparency
- Limited local end-of-use options
- Limited influence over a product once it is sold to the consumer

This toolkit is designed to help you navigate these challenges. Part 2 provides practical examples of circular actions across the three lifecycle phases, and Part 3 contains tools and templates to help identify where to start.

PART 2
PRACTICAL EXAMPLES OF CIRCULARITY IN FASHION

4 Introduction to Part 2

Circular fashion is built into a product from the design stage and maintained throughout its lifecycle. The three phases of a product's lifecycle, design, in-use, and end-of-use, each present distinct opportunities to embed circular practice. These opportunities are explored in the following sections and are informed by a combination of referenced sources and Rawtec's industry experience.

Design stage:	The creative and technical phase where concepts are developed into products. E.g. fibres are selected.
In-use stage:	The phase that a product is in its original form and being used for its intended purpose. E.g. a jacket is worn.
End-of-use stage:	The phase where a product is no longer functional for its intended purpose. E.g. a t-shirt is torn to the point it is no longer wearable.

By embedding circular practices into these stages, we can:

- **Narrow the loop** by optimising the flow of materials and products entering the system
- **Slow the loop** by extending a product's lifespan
- **Close the loop** by bringing materials back into production

When considering fashion circularity, it is important to understand the difference between wearable and unwearable garments. When a garment is wearable, it is in its in-use phase. It is only when a garment becomes unwearable that it reaches its end-of-use stage.

Important definitions

Wearable: Wearable garments can be worn again in their current form for their intended purpose. This can include garments in good condition suitable for resale or direct reuse, as well as garments in worn or heavily used condition that are still suitable for reuse but may require intervention such as repair.[35]

Unwearable: Unwearable garments are those that can no longer function in their original form for their original purpose. They may be deemed unsuitable for wear due to a range of reasons including commercial, functional, hygienic, or aesthetic. They are not suitable for reuse and are often sent to landfill.[36]

35 Seamless 2025, *Seamless circular clothing definitions*, Seamless, viewed July 2026, <https://cdn.prod.website-files.com/6626f3b6b75e22631bdf7c57/6927f3e0bd443e817dd85c8e_Seamless-Circular-Clothing-Definitions.pdf>.
36 Rawtec 2026, *Next markets for unwearable clothing textiles*, Seamless, viewed July 2026, <https://cdn.prod.website-files.com/69f94a717ed6349d713fa420/6a30f28b279ffc899a7fcd70_Seamless_Next_Markets_Unwearable_Textiles_Rawtec.pdf>.

5 Design Phase: Designing for Circularity

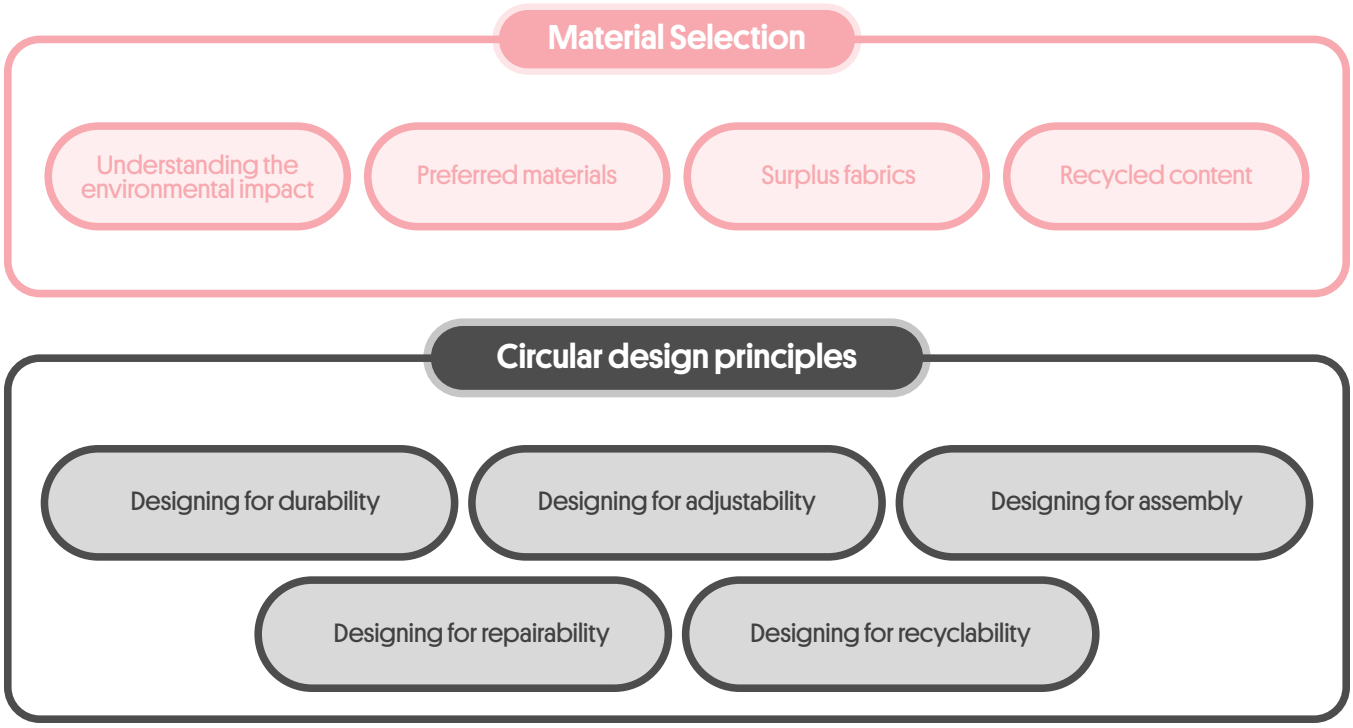
> Design decisions determine up to 80 percent of a garment's environmental impacts.[37]

Design is the stage where the most leverage exists, and where circular thinking can make the greatest difference. Up to 80% of a garment's environmental impacts are determined at this stage.[36] Circular design practices fall into two areas, each of which influences the other (Figure 3):

- **Material selection:** Understanding the environmental impacts of materials, and selecting options that support circular outcomes, such as preferred materials, surplus fabrics, or materials with recycled content.
- **Embedding circular design principles:** Designing for durability, adjustability, disassembly, repairability, and recyclability.

For example, choosing a high-quality fabric delivers limited benefit if the garment is not constructed to withstand extended use.

Figure 3: Overview of circular design practices



37 WRAP 2023, *Design for circularity toolkit*, WRAP, viewed July 2026, <https://www.wrap.ngo/sites/default/files/2023-10/WRAP_Design_for_Circularity_Toolkit.pdf>.

5.1 Material Selection

Understanding the environmental impact of commonly used fibres

Not all fibres are equal when it comes to environmental impact. However, there are no "right" or "wrong" fibres. Different fibres suit different purposes and garment types, and a range of factors should be considered when assessing a fibre's suitability, such as cost, availability, care requirements, and performance. Further information on broader fabric and fibre considerations is provided in the Fibre Characteristics Matrix in Part 3 of the toolkit.

Table 2 and Table 3 below highlight the climate and water impacts of commonly used fibres during production. Climate impact is presented in kg CO_2-eq/kg fibre, which represents the kilograms of carbon dioxide equivalent emitted per kilogram of fibre produced. Water depletion/use is presented in m^3/kg fibre, which represents the volume of water, in cubic metres, required to produce one kilogram of fibre. The tables have been adapted from Mistra Future Fashion's Environmental impact of textile fibres – what we know and don't know: The Fiber Bible Part 2.[38]

This is a high-level summary and is intended as a starting point for understanding material impacts, not a definitive guide. Environmental impacts will vary depending on production systems and suppliers, and carbon impacts and water use should be considered alongside other environmental factors such as fibre strength and durability.

Table 2: Climate impact of commonly used fibres

Climate Impact (kg CO_2-eq/kg fibre)			
	Min	Average	Max
Jute	-4.1	-0.6	0.8
Modal	N/D	0.3	N/D
Lyocell	0.1	1.5	3.4
Cotton	-0.9	2.2	9.3
Hemp	-1.6	3.1	6.0
Polyester	1.7	3.3	4.5
Viscose	-2.0	3.8	13.0
Elastane	N/D	4.8	N/D
Acrylic	N/D	5.4	N/D
Linen (flax)	-6.4	8.6	18.6
Nylon	8.6	9.1	9.4
Wool	-26.0	16.8	36.2
Silk	52.5	66.7	80.9

Table 3: Water use for commonly used fibres

Water Depletion/Use (m^3/kg fibre)			
	Min	Average	Max
Polyester	0.1	0.1	0.2
Nylon	0.03	0.1	0.2
Jute	0.01	0.2	0.4
Acrylic	N/D	0.2	N/D
Lyocell	N/D	0.3	N/D
Linen (flax)	N/D	0.3	N/D
Viscose	0.1	0.4	0.7
Modal	N/D	0.5	N/D
Wool	0.04	0.5	1.2
Hemp	2.1	3.2	3.7
Cotton	0.0	4.8	29.0
Silk	26.7	40.4	54.0
Elastane	N/D	N/D	N/D

38 Sandin, G & Roos, S 2019, *Environmental impact of textile fibres — what we know and what we don't know*. The Fiber Bible Part 2, Mistra Future Fashion, viewed July 2026, <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/331980907_Environmental_impact_of_textile_fibres_-_what_we_know_and_what_we_don't_know_Fiber_Bible_part_2>.

Preferred materials

Preferred materials, as defined by Textile Exchange, are materials that consistently deliver lower environmental impact and improved environmental outcomes compared to conventional alternatives.[39] Current examples include:

Certified organic cotton: Certified organic cotton is grown within a natural production system that supports soil health, ecosystems and people. It avoids the use of toxic and persistent synthetic pesticides, fertilisers and genetically modified seeds, and is often grown in rotation with other crops that help replenish the soil.[40]

Hemp: Hemp is a fast-growing crop that requires low water input to cultivate and is naturally resistant to many insect species. It is useful in many crop rotations and can help to reduce soil loss and erosion through its deep root system.[41]

TENCEL Lyocell: TENCEL Lyocell is a man-made cellulosic fibre derived from wood pulp, produced by company Lenzing. TENCEL Lyocell is made from renewable sources and up to 99.5% of chemicals used in production are managed through a closed-loop system, meaning they are recycled after use and used again in production.[42]

Surplus Fabrics

Surplus fabrics (sometimes referred to as deadstock fabrics) are unused materials left over from the manufacturing and production of textiles or clothing. They can result from minimum order quantities, over-ordering, production changes, or quality variations. While surplus fabrics can reflect inefficiencies in the current system, they also present an opportunity. By using existing materials that may otherwise remain unused or become waste, brands can reduce their reliance on virgin materials and help keep textiles out of landfill. Because surplus fabrics are often available in limited quantities, they can be well suited to limited-edition or made-to-order collections.[43]

Circular Sourcing:

Technology platforms like Circular Sourcing exist to support Australian brands in sourcing surplus fabrics from mills and suppliers. Launched in 2023, the platform provides buyers with impact and circularity data from purchasing surplus fabrics to support their internal decision-making. Since launching, Circular Sourcing has listed over 1,100 surplus fabrics and helped avoid more than 85,000 kg of CO_2 emissions through the sale of these materials.[44]

39 Textile Exchange 2023, *Preferred Fibers and Materials: Definitions*, Textile Exchange, viewed July 2026, <https://textileexchange.org/app/uploads/2023/02/Preferred-Fibers-and-Materials-Definitions-Guidance-Jan-2023.pdf>.
40 Textile Exchange n.d., *Organic cotton (OC)*, Textile Exchange, viewed July 2026, <https://textileexchange.org/glossary/organic-cotton-oc/>.
41 Textile Exchange n.d., *Hemp is one of the strongest fibres around.*, Textile Exchange, viewed July 2026, <https://textileexchange.org/hemp/>.
42 Textile Exchange n.d., *Lyocell*, Textile Exchange, viewed July 2026, <https://textileexchange.org/glossary/lyocell/>.
43 Circular Sourcing 2025, *The Guide to Surplus*, Circular Sourcing World Pty Ltd, viewed July 2026, <https://circularsourcing.world/surplus-sourcing-guide/>.
44 Circular Sourcing 2026, *Circular Sourcing*, Circular Sourcing, viewed July 2026, <https://circularsourcing.world/>.

Recycled Content

Recycled content refers to the proportion of pre-consumer and post-consumer material used in a product. In fashion, recycled content can be incorporated into garment fabrics, hardware, labelling and packaging. Recycled content is only one aspect of circularity, and further information on fibre characteristics relevant to circularity can be found in the Fibre Characteristics Matrix in Part 3 of the toolkit.

Use in fabrics:

Recycling gives materials a second life, helping to divert them from landfill. In a circular system, materials at the end of their useful life are recovered and returned to production, allowing unwearable clothing to be recycled into new clothing. In 2024, recycled fibres accounted for approximately 7.6% of global fibre production, while less than 1% of all fibres produced globally came from recycled textiles.[45] Some examples of fabric with recycled content include:

Recycled polyester: Recycled polyester (rPET) is one of the most common forms of recycled content used in garment fabrics, accounting for 6.9% of global fibre production in 2024. It is typically made from plastic bottles.[44]

ECONYL: ECONYL is a chemically recycled nylon created by Italian company Aquafil. It is produced from nylon waste feedstocks recovered from landfills and the ocean. It is a closed loop process and ECONYL can be recycled indefinitely.[46]

Industry demand for recycled fabrics can help scale recycling capacity over time. Recycled materials should be certified to an appropriate standard to verify recycled content claims. This includes the Global Recycled Standard (GRS), Recycled Claim Standard (RCS), RCS Blended, or SCS Recycled Content Standard.[47]

Use in hardware:

In addition to fabrics, recycled content can also be incorporated into garment hardware, including zippers, buttons, and buckles. Leading hardware manufacturers are responding to this opportunity. For example, YKK's NATULON® zipper range uses recycled polyester yarn in the zipper tape, reducing greenhouse gas emissions by up to 79% compared to zippers made from virgin polyester.[48]

Use in packaging:

Recycled content can also be incorporated into packaging including swing tags, garment bags, care labels, boxes, mailer bags, and tape. Using recycled content in packaging can reduce the environmental impact of packaging production and diverts waste away from landfill. Australia's 2025 National Packaging Targets set a goal of 50% average recycled content across all packaging, recognising that increased use of recycled content is essential to a more circular packaging system.[49]

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45 Textile Exchange 2025, *Materials Market Report 2025*, Textile Exchange, viewed July 2026, <https://textileexchange.org/app/uploads/2025/09/Materials-Market-Report-2025.pdf>.
46 Textile Exchange n.d., *Nylon is a popular performance fiber.*, Textile Exchange, viewed July 2026, <https://textileexchange.org/nylon/>.
47 WRAP 2023, *Design for circularity toolkit*, WRAP, viewed July 2026, <https://www.wrap.ngo/sites/default/files/2023-10/WRAP_Design_for_Circularity_Toolkit.pdf>.
48 YKK Americas 2024, *What is a sustainable zipper?*, YKK Americas, viewed July 2026, <https://ykkamericas.com/what-is-a-sustainable-zipper/>.
49 Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation 2021, *Recycled content guide*, Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation, viewed July 2026, <https://documents.packagingcovenant.org.au/public-documents/Recycled%20Content%20Guide>.

5.2 Design Principles

Designing for circularity requires a systems thinking approach. The below design principles highlight ways to consider each phase of a product's lifecycle at the very beginning.

Designing for Durability

Designing for durability focuses on strategies that keep a product in use for longer. When considering durability, there are generally two considerations: physical durability and emotional durability.

Physical durability: Physical durability refers to the physical properties of a garment and its ability to resist wear, tear and damage.

Emotional durability: Emotional durability refers to a customer's sentiment towards a garment, including its desirability and continued relevance to them.[50]

> Most consumers stop wearing clothes for emotional reasons rather than physical.[49]

Strategies for physical durability:

- **Select high-quality, strong, or low-care fabrics.** Fabric choice has a significant bearing on how a garment holds up over time. Low-care fabrics reduce the risk of damage from washing and wear and minimise the need for ironing.[49] Refer to Fibre Characteristics Matrix in Part 3 of the toolkit for more information.
- **Reinforce seams in high-stress areas.** Reinforcing seams and other high-stress areas can help extend a garment's lifespan by reducing the risk of failure over time.[49]
- **Apply finishes that improve performance.** Fabric finishes can reduce pilling, resist stains, and lower the frequency of washing required, all of which contribute to a longer garment lifespan.[49]
- **Select dyes that maintain colour over time.** Selecting dyes that do not fade with washing or over time can reduce the risk of fading.[49]
- **Conduct wash and wear testing.** Wash and wear testing can allow you to assess how a fabric performs in real life scenarios, when worn and washed by the consumer.[49] Wash and wear testing guides are available online, including a guide developed by Circular Sourcing[51], which can be found in the Links to Further Information and Resources in Part 3 of the toolkit.
- **Consider how care instructions are communicated to consumers.** Washing clothes incorrectly or without care can cause shrinking, pilling, and fading. Providing clear care guidance can help customers care for garments correctly and support longer product lifespans.[49]

50 WRAP 2023, *Design for circularity toolkit*, WRAP, viewed July 2026, <https://www.wrap.ngo/sites/default/files/2023-10/WRAP_Design_for_Circularity_Toolkit.pdf>.
51 Circular Sourcing 2023, *DIY Fabric Care Testing*, Circular Sourcing, viewed July 2026, <https://circularsourcing.world/diy-fabric-care-testing/>.

Strategies for emotional durability:

- **Prioritise timeless design.** Garments that are not tied to seasonal or short-lived trends remain desirable for longer and are less likely to lose their relevance. Timeless design can include classic silhouettes, colours, and patterns that are likely to remain relevant in years to come.[51] Avoid trend driven shapes and prints that are likely to become 'overdone' or 'outdated' quickly.
- **Offer personalisation or customisation options.** Personalised or customisable elements can make a garment feel unique and increase a customer's attachment to it, adding perceived value and encouraging longer ownership.[52] Examples of this include decorative items like embroidery or personalised charms.

Designing for Adjustability

Designing for adjustability focuses on strategies that increase a product's versatility. This allows garments to be used more and for longer by the customer.

Strategies for adjustability:

- **Include adjustable features.** Incorporating adjustable features such as straps, waistbands and buttons allows garments to adapt to changes in body size, which can extend their useful life.[51] Examples include jeans with adjustable waistband cinches to improve comfort and fit.
- **Design for multiple functions or styles.** Garments that can be adapted into different styles or worn across multiple occasions.[51] Examples include reversible products (e.g. a two-in-one swimsuit with different patterns on each side that can be worn either way), detachable elements (e.g. removable sleeves that transform a jacket into a vest), or features like cinches and ties that allow a piece to be styled in more than one way.
- **Consider adaptability for reuse.** Designing with adjustability in mind can also extend the life of a garment across multiple owners, as a more adaptable fit makes a garment suitable for a wider range of people.[51] For example, trousers with internal buttons can allow for easy hemming without permanent alterations, increasing their resale and reuse potential.

Designing for Disassembly

Designing for disassembly enables a garment to be easily deconstructed. This design principle supports future repair and recycling processes.

Strategies for disassembly:

- **Reduce non-functional elements.** More complex products are harder to disassemble and therefore repair/recycle. Where possible, minimise trims and components.[51]
- **Use detachable components.** Where trims and components are included, ensure they can be detached rather than permanently fixed. Ideally, each of these components would be individually recyclable.[51]
- **Provide disassembly instructions.** Consider providing instructions on how to take products apart while maintaining the integrity of their components. These could be made available to repairers or recyclers through DPPs, or other communication methods.

52 WRAP 2023, *Design for circularity toolkit*, WRAP, viewed July 2026, <https://www.wrap.ngo/sites/default/files/2023-10/WRAP_Design_for_Circularity_Toolkit.pdf>.

Designing for Repairability

Designing for repairability focuses on making repair processes as easy as possible for the customer.

Strategies for repairability:

- **Consider likely failure points.** Consider which components or areas of a product are most likely to need replacement or reinforcement. Common examples include zips, pockets, and high-wear areas such as elbows.[52]
- **Use materials and construction that are easy to repair.** Select materials that can be reinforced or mended easily.[52]
- **Use modular elements.** Modular components such as zips and buttons that are designed to be replaced, can extend the functional life of the garment and allow for updates as trends and customer tastes change over time.[53]
- **Provide repair parts.** Including spare buttons or other components with the garment, or making them available on request, can reduce barriers to repair.

Designing for Recyclability

The ability to recycle clothing depends on fibre composition, dyeing and finishing processes, trims and components, and garment construction. Designing for recyclability involves considering in the design stage how a garment can be recycled in its end-of-use stage. This can include closed-loop recycling, where clothing is turned into a new clothing product, or open-loop recycling, where clothing is turned into another product (textile or other).[52] For information on textile recyclers available to South Australian brands and consumers, see the Textile Recyclers Directory on page 31.

Strategies for recyclability:

- **Prioritise mono-materials.** Products made from a single fibre type are simpler to recycle than blended fibres for some recycling pathways. Where possible, eliminate or substitute materials that cannot be recycled.[52]
- **Avoid glue and reduce non-functional elements.** Products that are hard to disassemble can disrupt the recycling process by preventing materials from being separated.[52]
- **Make fibre content information available and accurate.** Recyclers may need accurate fibre composition information to confirm that a product meets their feedstock requirements. Ensure care labels accurately detail this information. You may also want to consider sharing this information with recyclers through DPPs.[52]
- **Understand and consider the needs of the recycler.** Design teams should understand available recycling technologies and their requirements. These requirements are constantly evolving as new technologies emerge, and information may be unavailable or difficult to access.[52] More information on current and emerging recycling options is available in the Textile Recyclers Directory below.

53 WRAP 2023, *Design for circularity toolkit*, WRAP, viewed July 2026, <https://www.wrap.ngo/sites/default/files/2023-10/WRAP_Design_for_Circularity_Toolkit.pdf>.

6 In-Use Phase: Product Life Extension

> Extending a garment's active lifespan by just nine months can reduce its carbon, water, and waste footprints by up to 20%.[54]

The in-use phase is not a passive stage. It is an active opportunity to maintain a product's value and extend its useful life.

Repair

Both brand-led and consumer-led repair and care practices can lengthen a garment's lifespan. In addition to the design strategies outlined in Designing for Repairability, brands can also support repair practices through the following examples.

Strategies to support repair:

- **Provide repair instructions in accessible formats.** Sharing repair guidance in formats customers will use, such as via email with a purchase receipt, on the brand website, through how to repair videos/tutorials, or through a DPP may increase the likelihood of a customer repairing their garments.
- **Offer a brand-led repair service.** Providing a service where customers can send garments back to the brand for repair and have them returned can reduce consumer barriers to repair.
- **Share a directory of repairers.** Listing trusted tailors or repair services on the brand website may make it easier for customers to identify repair services. Consider listing services located near stores, or including one option per major City.

54 WRAP 2024, *Extending product lifetimes: WRAP's work on clothing durability*, WRAP, viewed July 2026, <https://www.wrap.ngo/resources/case-study/extending-product-lifetimes-wraps-work-clothing-durability>.

Reuse & sharing

The circular economy offers a pathway for the fashion industry to move away from the linear take-make-waste model and respond to changing consumer preferences. Customer demand is evolving, with interest growing in services and platforms that enable the resale of fashion items. In response, resale, rental and other circular business models are gaining traction. Reuse and sharing models can help extend the lifespan of garments by enabling them to be used by multiple users over time, keeping products in circulation for longer.[55]

Strategies to support reuse and sharing:

- **Offer a rental or lease service.** Consider a system where customers can borrow a garment for a specified period in exchange for a monthly fee. This may increase the number of times a garment is worn across its life through servicing multiple owners.
- **Establish a brand-owned resale platform.** This would involve taking back post-consumer garments suitable for reuse and reselling them through a brand-owned channel such as a website, pop-up shop or a dedicated rack within an existing retail store. This can support keeping products in circulation for longer and has the potential to create an additional revenue stream.
- **Partner with a charitable reuse organisation.** Partnering with a charitable organisation to manage post-consumer returns and aged inventory can support the diversion of garments from landfill and may support community-focused initiatives.
- **Provide guidance to customers on reuse options.** Sharing information on where customers can send pre-loved garments, along with guidance on resale value, can empower customers to make more circular decisions once they no longer need an item.
- **Partner with an online consignment platform.** Collaborating with an online consignment platform can make it easier for customers to resell garments at the end-of-use. These platforms can manage the resale process on behalf of the consumer, including listing products across second-hand marketplaces.[56]

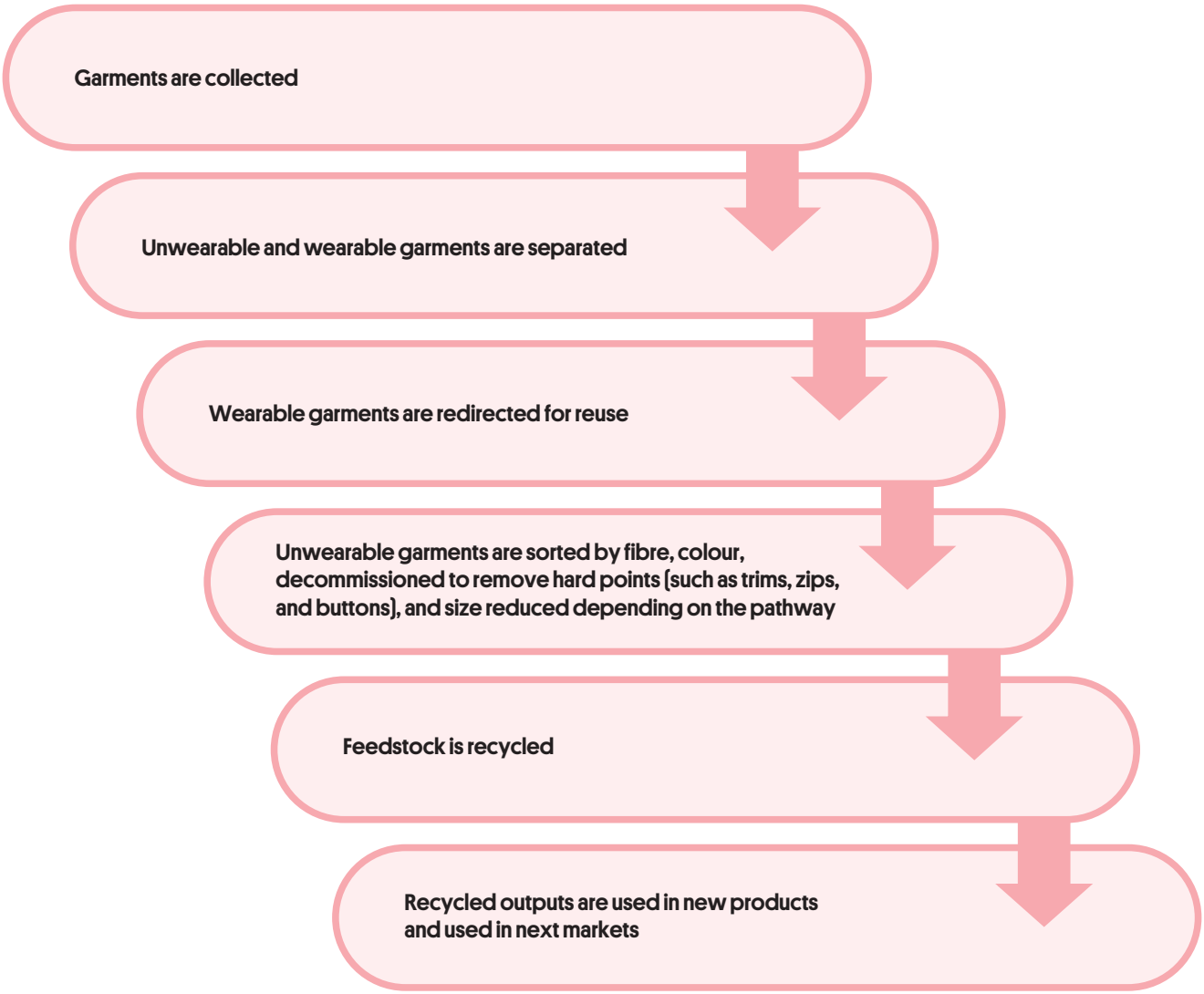
55 Ellen MacArthur Foundation 2021, *The trends and trailblazers creating a circular economy for fashion*, Ellen MacArthur Foundation, viewed July 2026, <https://www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/articles/the-trends-and-trailblazers-creating-a-circular-economy-for-fashion>.
56 Authentified n.d., *Authentified*, Authentified, viewed July 2026, <https://authentified.co/>.

7 End-of-Use: Circular Pathways

> 85% of apparel bought in Australia is sent directly to landfill at the end-of-use.[57]

End-of-use pathways should be considered alongside circular design and in-use practices. Once a garment has become unwearable, recycling and other recovery pathways can help keep materials in circulation and reduce the need for disposal to landfill.

Typical processes for textile recycling[58]:



57 Green Industries SA n.d., *Circular textiles*, Green Industries SA, viewed July 2026, <https://www.greenindustries.sa.gov.au/circular-textiles>.
58 Rawtec 2026, *Next markets for unwearable clothing textiles*, Seamless, viewed July 2026, <https://cdn.prod.website-files.com/69f94a717ed6349d713fa420/6a30f28b279ffc899a7fcd70_Seamless_Next_Markets_Unwearable_Textiles_Rawtec.pdf>.

Different recycling pathways can include:

- **Closed-loop recycling.** Garments are turned into yarn for new clothing, retaining materials within the textile value chain.[59] As a fibre-to-fibre (F2F) recycling process, this is considered a high-value end-of-use pathway for unwearable clothing.
- **Open-loop recycling.** Garments are turned into different products, directing materials into other markets. Example applications include mattresses, rags, thermal insulation, and soil amendments.

When recycling is not viable, energy recovery may provide an alternative pathway.

- **Energy recovery.** Garments are combined with waste and used to replace fossil fuels in industrial processes. This pathway can help manage residual materials that are not suitable for recycling and provide an alternative to landfill, although it is generally considered a lower-value recovery option.[58]

Current and emerging technologies for closed loop (F2F) recycling:

- **Chemical recycling.** Fibres are broken down into basic components through chemical separation processes and used to produce new materials.
- **Enzymatic recycling.** Engineered enzymes break down specific polymers into their original molecular building blocks. This approach has shown promise for difficult-to-recycle synthetics such as nylon.
- **Mechanical recycling.** Decommissioned clothing or colour-sorted clips are torn into fibre that can be spun into yarn for use in textile manufacturing.[58]

In addition to the design strategies outlined in Designing for Recyclability, the following strategies can support recycling as an end-of-use pathway when a garment can no longer be reused or repaired.

Strategies to support recycling:

- **Provide information to customers on recycling options.** Making recycling information easy to find, i.e. through the brand website, included with purchase, or via a DPP, can help customers understand where and how to recycle garments at the end-of-use. Information on current textile recyclers available to both brands and consumers can be found in the Textile Recyclers Directory below.
- **Include a prepaid recycling satchel at checkout.** Offering customers the option to add a prepaid satchel to their order at checkout may remove the burden of managing recycling themselves.
- **Establish a take-back scheme.** Post-consumer unwearable garments are returned to the brand for end-of-use management. Take-back schemes can help improve visibility of end-of-use outcomes and may support garments being directed to recycling pathways where appropriate.

59 Rawtec 2026, *Next markets for unwearable clothing textiles*, Seamless, viewed July 2026, <https://cdn.prod.website-files.com/69f94a717ed6349d713fa420/6a30f28b279ffc899a7fcd70_Seamless_Next_Markets_Unwearable_Textiles_Rawtec.pdf>.

8 Textile Recyclers Directory

Table 4 provides information on textile recyclers currently available to South Australian brands and consumers. It is based on publicly available information as of the time this toolkit was written (July 2026). As textile recycling technology develops, more options for recycling unwearable textiles may become available. Please note that recycler capabilities, accepted materials, service areas and collection methods may change over time. Brands and consumers should check directly with the recycler to confirm current requirements before sending materials for recycling.

Table 4: Textile recyclers available to SA brands and consumers as of July 2026

Recycler	What do they accept?	What happens to the product?	Collection method	Notes
AVAILABLE TO: BOTH BRANDS AND CONSUMERS				
UPPAREL	• Aged, damaged, or unsold stock • Samples & offcuts • Post-consumer textiles • Uniforms	• Incorporated into UPtex (felt, cushion, and board) that can be used in packaging or the built environment	• In-store collections from partner brands • Delivery • Home collection by purchasing shipping label, filling box with unwanted textiles and booking collection	• UPPAREL has a free digital integration solution that allows brands to direct customers to UPPAREL through their website • Offer a subscription-based collection bin for brands to provide in store • Offer secure destruction
Textile Recyclers Group	• Post-consumer textiles without contamination • Uniforms • Underwear through a dedicated collection	• Turned into yarn for new products	• Door-to-depot collection, at the cost of the sender	• For more than 80kg, contact Textile Recyclers Group directly
RCYCL	• Unwearable post-consumer	• Partners with textile recyclers	• Sent through postal satchels	• RCYCL bags can be sold by fashion brands to consumers either in-store or online
AVAILABLE TO: BRANDS				
Blocktexx	• Uniforms • Linen	• PET fibres are turned into recycled PET pellets called PolyTexx, which can be used in textiles, injection moulding, and building & construction applications • Cellulosic fibres are turned into Celltexx, which can be used in agriculture and building & construction applications	• Contact Blocktexx for details on collection	• Contact Blocktexx to enquire about their recycled textiles • The public can supply material to Blocktexx through their Give a Sheet campaigns.
Textura by Shred-X	• Uniforms and branded clothing • Linen	• Partners with textile recyclers to offer a circular pathway for end-of-use textile items	• Textura satchels for up to 20kg of material • Collection	• Provide secure destruction of branded uniforms
AVAILABLE TO: CONSUMERS				
GISA set your clothes free events	• Post-consumer clothing • Household textiles (linen)	• Wearable items are donated to charitable reuse organisations • Unwearable items are sent to textile recyclers Shred-X and UPPAREL	• Drop off to participating council locations	• Check their website for details on upcoming events
EMERGING TEXTILE RECYCLING OPTIONS				
Salvos Stores Textile Recovery Facility	• Exploring the following streams: » Aged, damaged, or unsold stock » Uniforms and branded textiles » Unwearable post-consumer garments	• Processed into colour sorted textile clips that can be sold to textile mills and turned into yarn for use in new textiles		• Brands and businesses looking to increase circularity are encouraged to connect via the website form
Samsara Eco	• Post-industrial and post-consumer polyester (PET) and nylon 6,6/nylon 6 textiles	• Uses enzymatic recycling technology to depolymerise PET and nylon back into original monomer building blocks, which are then repolymerised into virgin-quality material	• No collection method advertised	

9 Opportunities to Navigate Challenges

The shift to circular practice is not without its challenges. Table 5 outlines common barriers faced by fashion businesses, alongside practical opportunities to help address them.

Table 5: Overview of challenges and opportunities for embedding circular practices

Challenge	Opportunity
Cost: The high cost of sustainable, preferred, or recycled materials compared to conventional or virgin materials.	» Start with lower cost circular opportunities and work towards circular material selection as options become more available.
Resourcing: Many fashion brands are small business with limited time, resources, and staff capacity.	» Use publicly available tools and resources designed to support fashion circularity (some of these are listed in Links to Further Information and Resources in Part 3). » Seek government funding support for engaging an external consultant to support your brand. » Collaborate with other brands in the network that are also looking to increase their circularity (e.g. through shared services), which can make circular initiatives more achievable for smaller brands.
Knowledge: Limited knowledge on how to embed circularity in practice.	» Provide regular training and education to staff members on the circular economy and environmental sustainability. This can be through email, group workshops, videos or through available support documents. » For SAFIA members, reference the Circular Fashion Initiative Stage 1 masterclass recordings, which are available on the SAFIA portal. » Use the resources provided in Part 3 of the toolkit.
Supply chain transparency: Lack of transparency across the supply chain, including resistance from suppliers. This challenge is expected to disproportionately impact smaller brands with less buying power than larger brands.	» Leverage upcoming policy changes in the EU to start the conversation with your suppliers to build supply chain transparency. » Map supply chain information that is currently available and add to it as more information becomes available. » Require suppliers to report on supply chain when onboarding (may be more challenging for smaller brands with less influence).

Challenge	Opportunity
Limited end-of-use options: Australia's onshore capacity for textile recycling is limited, leaving fewer circular options for unwearable clothing and textiles.	» Research the options available or refer to the Textile Recyclers Directory above. » Connect with a current Australian textile recycler and investigate developing a partnership. » Join Seamless, Australia's product stewardship scheme to support the development of circular infrastructure in Australia.
Limited influence: : Brands have less influence over a product and how it is treated once sold to the consumer.	» Provide customers with end-of-use options through brand website, with receipt of purchase, or on other customer facing communication channels to encourage disposal of garments through circular pathways. » Investigate the possibility of a brand take-back scheme to regain visibility and responsibility of garments at the end-of-use.

PART 3
TOOLS AND RESOURCES TO SUPPORT CIRCULAR FASHION BRANDS

10 Case Studies

#Design

Hemp Clothing Australia: material selection

Adelaide-based brand Hemp Clothing Australia was founded in 2017 with a focus on using natural fibres over synthetics to produce thoughtful clothing. Circular fashion principles are central to the brand's design approach.

The brand uses hemp as its primary fibre. Hemp can require less land and water to grow compared to other natural fibres, grows without the need for pesticides or herbicides, and matures in as little as 100 days. All garments are made from 100% hemp or hemp blended with other natural plant fibres such as cotton and Tencel, with all cotton certified organic.

Garments are designed to be timeless and suitable for repair and upcycling, extending the life of each piece. The brand also carefully selects fabrics, trims, dyes, and packaging with environmental impact in mind.

Beyond product design, Hemp Clothing Australia actively supports the growth of the Australian industrial hemp industry, with the founder sitting on the committee of the Industrial Hemp Association of South Australia, which works with policy makers to strengthen the hemp industry.[60]

"Brands that would like to embrace circular principles can start with two key objectives that actually make a huge difference. Firstly, choose natural fibres over synthetic fibres for your fabrics. Secondly, choose natural fibres for your trims and packaging.

These two principles do not have to be executed perfectly; just make a start and watch how your customers and industry peers will notice the changes. Many brands fear the cost of making sustainable or circular steps, but they can easily be offset by a tiny increase in the products unit price. Work towards bulk solutions, negotiate with multiple suppliers and persist with your goals and targets to get results. If most of the world's brands enacted these two principles, the fashion industry could go from a major polluter to a more neutral player."

Chris Martin, Founder & Director, Hemp Clothing Australia

60 Hemp Clothing Australia n.d., *Sustainability*, Hemp Clothing Australia, viewed July 2026, <https://www.hempclothingaustralia.com/pages/sustainability>.

#Design

Neil Vernon: designing for adjustability

Sydney-based label Neil Vernon was founded in 2023. They design pieces that can be worn in multiple ways through adjustable features, extending their use and reducing the need to buy more.

The brand's signature pants feature an adjustable hem with three different length options and an adjustable waistband, allowing them to be worn with different shoe types and adapted to suit different body shapes and changes in size over time.

Their Daily Shirt uses a metal slider to convert between different styles and fits, producing multiple different looking shirts from one piece. Their Odette Dress can be converted into a midi skirt, giving the one garment two distinct wearable forms.

By designing for adjustability and versatility, Neil Vernon supports extending the useful life of each garment and encourages more conscious consumption.[61]

#InUse

Re-Worn (Assembly Label): takeback and resale service

Australian brand Assembly Label has established Re-Worn, a take-back service designed to extend the life of their garments and keep them in use for as long as possible.

To participate, customers return their used Assembly Label garments in-store and receive 20% off their next purchase. Items are then laundered and repaired where needed before being made available to shop through Re-Worn online drops and pop-up shops.

Since 2021, the program has laundered or repaired 1,810 items, sold 805 Re-Worn pieces, and recycled 3,221 kg of textiles.[62]

61 Fashion Journal 2024, *Adjustable pants and functional basics: Meet Sydney-based label Neil Vernon*, Fashion Journal, viewed July 2026, <https://fashionjournal.com.au/fashion/adjustable-pants-sydney-label-neil-vernon/>.
62 Assembly Label n.d., *Re-Worn, Assembly Label*, viewed July 2026, <https://assemblylabel.com/pages/re-worn>.

#InUse

DECJUBA: facilitating reuse

Decjuba is facilitating the reuse of their items through their partnership with Authentified, a consignment platform that simplifies and accelerates the resale of pre-loved fashion.

The process is designed to be low effort for customers. After logging into their Decjuba account, customers locate a previous order they wish to resell and select the option to list it with Authentified. They upload a current photo and record the item's condition, set their own price or leave it to the Authentified team, and create an Authentified account to complete the listing. From there, Authentified's consignment experts manage the listing on the customer's behalf, selling through trusted marketplaces such as eBay or Depop.

This partnership demonstrates Decjuba's commitment to keeping their items in use for as long as possible, increasing circularity as part of their waste reduction commitments.[63]

#EndofUse

ELK: facilitating recycling

ELK the Label became the first Australian fashion brand to partner with BlockTexx, a Queensland-based textile recycling company, to manage their unwearable garments.

BlockTexx has developed a technology called Separation of Fibre Technology (S.O.F.T.) that can process blended fabrics. This has significantly expanded the range of garments that can be diverted through recycling.

Under the partnership, ELK's garments are first processed through one of BlockTexx's charity partners, where non-recyclable components such as buttons and zips are removed. The remaining fabric is then shredded and processed through S.O.F.T., producing two outputs:

- Polytexx: recycled PET pellets used in textile production, injection moulding, and the construction industry.
- CellTexx: a microcrystalline cellulose product used to improve soil health in agricultural applications.

Customers can return end-of-use ELK garments in-store, where unwearable items are directed to BlockTexx for recycling. Since the partnership launched, almost 300 ELK garments have been processed through the BlockTexx facility.[64]

63 DECJUBA n.d., *DECJUBA x Authentified*, DECJUBA, viewed July 2026, <https://www.decjuba.com.au/decjuba-x-authentified>.
64 ELK the Label 2024, *ELK x BlockTexx*, ELK the Label, viewed July 2026, <https://elkthelabel.com/blogs/elk-tales/elk-x-blocktexx>.

11 Tools & Templates

The tools and templates in this section are designed to help brands move from learning about circularity to applying it in practice. They can be used sequentially, starting with a baseline assessment and moving through opportunity shortlisting and action planning, or individually to support specific decisions, such as material selection.

Tool/Template	How to use it
Investigation 1: Circularity Baseline Assessment	A checklist to assess current circular practices across design, in-use, end-of-use and broader brand sustainability.
Investigation 2: Shortlisting Circular Opportunities	A template to identify potential initiatives, assess benefits and barriers, and decide which opportunities to progress.
Investigation 3: Developing your Action Plan	An implementation template for assigning responsibility, setting target dates, documenting key steps and tracking progress.
Fibre Characteristics Matrix	A reference guide to common fibre groups, their qualities, care needs, and environmental considerations.
Links to further information and resources	A curated list of organisations and resources that can support further learning and industry connection.

Investigation 1: Circularity Baseline Assessment

This investigation is designed to help you understand your circular starting point and highlight opportunities to increase circularity that you may want to explore further. It covers three stages of a product's lifecycle, design, in-use, and end-of-use, as well as overall brand circularity. Not all initiatives will be suitable for your brand or business, but this investigation provides an overview of what is possible and will help inform the development of your action plan in Investigation 2.

To complete this investigation:

- Tick all actions that your brand is currently undertaking
- Using the drop down, describe the extent of implementation where:
  - **1: Early stage** indicates the action has been started or applied in a limited way.
  - **2: Partially implemented** indicates the action applied to some products, processes or areas of the business.
  - **3: Fully implemented** indicates the action has been fully embedded across relevant products, processes or business areas.
- Add comments or descriptions where relevant
- Include any additional circular practices you are undertaking at the end of the checklist

Brand name: _____

Completed by: _____

Date: _____

1.1 Design

Check	Circular Action	Extent of Implementation	Comments/Description
Fibres/Materials			
☐	Use of mono fibres is prioritised		
☐	Use of recycled content in garments, through fabric, or hardware (such as zippers and buttons)		
☐	Use surplus fabric or materials in the manufacture of new items		
☐	Established an internal goal for sourcing preferred fibres (% of total fibres used)		
☐	Developed a preferred fibres portfolio with consideration for environmental sustainability		
☐	Undertaken a fibre audit or fibre matrix to evaluate and review textiles fibres within the product range based on environmental impact, ethical impact and performance		
☐	Manufacturing offcuts are sent for recycling		
Circular Design			
☐	Strong, high-quality materials are prioritised that can resist damage and wear over time		
☐	High-stress areas like crotch and armpit seams are reinforced on garments		
☐	Garments are designed to be timeless and are not influenced by micro, fast, or seasonal trends		
☐	Garments are designed for disassembly (e.g. adhesives are avoided and hardware is reduced where possible)		
☐	Garments are designed for recyclability (with recyclers requirements/processes in mind)		
☐	Garment elements (labels, threads & trims) are matched to the dominant garment fibre		
☐	Garments are designed for repair (e.g. modular construction where components can be easily replaced)		
☐	Garments are designed with adjustable features that can adapt to changes in size and fit		
☐	Garments and products are made to order, on a wholesale or customer basis, to reduce the risk of unsold stock		
Labelling/Packaging			
☐	Digital Product Passports (DPPs) are used to provide detailed information and data (including fibre composition, chemicals or dyes, carbon footprint, disassembly instructions, recyclability, and end-of-use instructions).		
☐	Fibre content and/or percentages are detailed on garment labelling		
☐	The country of origin, where the garment was manufactured into its final form, is included on the garment label		
☐	Sewn-in garment labels are made from recycled material (e.g. rPET)		
☐	Product/price tags are made from recycled material and can be recycled by the consumer		
☐	A recyclable alternative (e.g. paper string) is used to attach product tags instead of plastic tag pins		
☐	Garment bags are reusable or recyclable		
☐	Mailers and e-commerce packaging are reusable or recyclable with disposal guidance provided to customers		
☐	Where used, paper and cardboard packaging (boxes, tissues, product wraps) is made from recycled materials		
☐	Where used, retail carry bags are reusable or recyclable and can be recycled at end-of-use		
☐	Water based inks are used on packaging to reduce chemical use		

1.2 Use

Check	Sustainability or Circular Action	Extent of Implementation	Comments/Description
Repair			
☐	Information is provided to customers on extending garment life (repair and care instructions)		
☐	Repair parts (e.g. spare buttons) are provided with garments and/or readily available upon request		
☐	A brand-led repair service is provided to customers (through repair partner)		
☐	Garments or products that are damaged in-house (pre-consumer) are repaired for sale		
Reuse			
☐	Previously explored options to facilitate reuse of wearable garments (including aged inventory and post-consumer garments)		
☐	Existing partnership(s) with reuse organisation for donating wearable garments (including aged inventory and post-consumer garments)		
☐	Garments that are returned by customers are restocked (if in appropriate condition), discounted but still sold if slight signs of wear, or sent for reuse		
☐	Garment design samples that are suitable for reuse are donated to reuse organisation		
☐	Brand-owned or led reuse platform for post-consumer garments fit for resale		
☐	Instore and/or online donation drop off systems for wearable post-consumer garments to be sent for reuse		

1.3 End-of-use

Check	Sustainability or Circular Action	Extent of Implementation	Comments/Description
Collection			
☐	Information is provided to customers on end-of-use options (e.g. recycling drop off)		
☐	Take-back service is available for unwearable garments (via post, instore or other)		
Recycling			
☐	Previously explored options to facilitate recycling of unwearable textiles and garments (including manufacturing offcuts, damaged inventory, post-consumer garments not fit for reuse)		
☐	Existing partnership with recycler for recycling of unwearable garments (including damaged inventory and post-consumer garments not fit for reuse)		

1.4 Brand Sustainability

Check	Sustainability or Circular Action	Extent of Implementation	Comments/Description
Corporate Governance			
☐	Staff are provided with training, education, or resources on sustainability and circular economy concepts		
☐	Sustainability progress is measured and reported against targets year on year (e.g. reported in a sustainability report)		
☐	Member of Seamless (Clothing Stewardship Australia's voluntary product stewardship scheme)		
☐	Signatory/member of APCO (Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation)		
☐	Carbon neutral certification		
☐	Other environmental credentials (e.g. Certified B Corporation)		
Supply Chain Transparency			
☐	Undertaken supply chain mapping or a materials traceability assessment across all stages of production		
☐	Developed a procurement guideline or supplier questionnaire for sourcing goods sustainably		
☐	Tier 1 suppliers (or more) are publicly listed		
☐	Onsite audits (e.g. Sedex Members Ethical Trade Audit) or certifications (e.g. Fair Trade) are conducted at manufacturing facilities or supplier sites to ensure/check compliance with labour laws, health and safety, and environmental protocols		
General			
☐	Products with recycled content are used in store fit outs (e.g. recycled-content carpet)		
☐	Renewable energy used in part or in full to power manufacturing facility, supplier sites, warehouse, office or stores		
☐	Sustainability performance is shared publicly (e.g. on social media, on website, or in stores)		
☐	Material volumes and/or item counts are tracked by destination pathway, including reuse, recycling, and landfill		

Other Initiatives

Investigation 2: Shortlisting Circular Opportunities

Investigation 2 is designed to support you in shortlisting potential circular opportunities for your business.

To complete this investigation:

- Fill in the circular opportunities you are currently not undertaking (as identified in Investigation 1) that you are interested in exploring. At this stage, this can be a long list, it does not need to be limited to what is immediately practical for your business.
- For each opportunity, identify what information/support you need to evaluate it, and potential benefits, and potential barriers.
- After identifying those factors, select a next step out of the following:
  - Include in Action Plan (Investigation 3) for actioning
  - Include in Action Plan for further investigation
  - Exclude from Action Plan but revisit at a later date
  - Exclude from Action Plan as no longer of interest

Stage	Circular opportunity	What information/support is needed to evaluate this opportunity?	Potential Benefits (e.g. reduces greenhouse gas emissions)	Potential Barriers (e.g. cost)	Next steps	Other comments
	1.					
	2.					
	3.					
	4.					
	5.					
	6.					
	7.					
	8.					
	9.					
	10.					
	11.					
	12.					

Investigation 3: Developing your Action Plan

Investigation 3 builds on the opportunities shortlisted in Investigation 2. For each opportunity, document the responsible person, key implementation steps, target dates and progress made. This will provide a clear roadmap for implementation and help track actions over time.

Opportunity	Responsible person (lead) & support team	Target start date	Target implementation date	Progress made	Key implementation steps
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					
8.					
9.					
10.					
11.					
12.					

Fibre Characteristics Matrix

Understanding fabrics and fibres can help brands make more informed circular design decisions. Different fibres have different characteristics, care requirements, environmental impacts and end-of-use considerations. This matrix provides a high-level overview of key characteristics to consider for common fabrics and fibres, as well as their share of the global fibre market. The global fibre market share information is based on *Textile Exchange's Materials Market Report 2025*[65], with additional insights on qualities, care, and environmental considerations drawn from Masterclass 1 from Stage 1 of the Circular Fashion Initiative.

Table 6: Fibre Characteristic Matrix for commonly used fibres[66]

Fibre	Share of Global Fibre Mix	Qualities		Care	Environmental Notes
Synthetic Fibres (69% of global fibre mix)					
Polyester	59%	• Strong • Long lasting	• Wrinkle resistant • Fast drying	• Machine washable	• Fossil fuel based • Sheds microplastic • Low energy drying • Recyclable at end-of-use
Nylon	5%	• Strong • Abrasion resistant	• Elastic	• Machine washable	• Fossil fuel based • Sheds microplastic • Energy intensive to produce • Recyclable at end-of-use (through specialised streams)
Acrylic	1.2%	• Soft • Lightweight • Warming • Prone to pilling	• Requires frequent washing • Fast drying	• Machine washable	• Fossil fuel based • Sheds microplastic • Short lifespan
Elastane	1.1%	• Strong • Lightweight	• Stretchy	• Machine washable on cold • No heat or tumble drying	• Short lifespan if incorrectly cared for • Not recyclable
Plant Fibres (24% of global fibre mix)					
Cotton	19%	• Blends well with other fibres • Strong	• Long lasting • Breathable • Versatile	• Easy care • Machine washable • Requires frequent washing • Requires ironing	• High water and pesticide use during production • Washing and ironing use water and energy • Recyclable at end-of-use
Linen (Flax)	0.3%	• Strong • Breathable	• Naturally antibacterial • Long lasting	• Machine washable on cold • Requires ironing	• Low input crop • Recyclable at end-of-use
Hemp	0.2%	• Strong • Breathable • Naturally antibacterial	• UV resistant • Softens with wear	• Machine washable on cold • Requires ironing	• Fast-growing crop • Low waste and pesticide use during production • Recyclable at end-of-use
Manmade Cellulosic Fibres (MMCFs 6% of global fibre mix)					
Viscose (rayon)	5%	• Soft • Breathable	• Drapes well • Weak when wet	• Hand wash or delicate cycle	• Short lifespan if incorrectly cared for • Linked to deforestation • Requires chemical processing
Acetate	0.8%	• Crisp • Shiny	• Smooth • Weak against heat	• Hand wash or delicate cycle	• Requires heavy chemical processing
Lyocell	0.3%	• Strong • Breathable	• Wrinkle resistant • Long lasting	• Easy care • Gentle machine wash	• Lower environmental impact compared to Viscose • Closed loop production • Recyclable at end-of-use
Modal	0.2%	• Soft • Stretchy	• Absorbent • Holds shape and colours well	• Machine washable	• Lower environmental impact compared to Viscose • Requires chemical processing • Recyclable at end-of-use
Animal Fibres (1% of global fibre mix)					
Wool	0.9%	• Insulating • Moisture-wicking	• Odour resistant • Long lasting	• Requires little washing • Hand wash or wool cycle • Air dry flat	• Low water and energy use from care • Carbon and methane emissions associated with production • Recyclable at end-of-use
Silk	0.09%	• Strong • Lightweight	• Soft • Drapes well	• Hand wash or dry clean only	• High water and carbon footprint • Short lifespan if incorrectly cared for

65 Textile Exchange 2025, *Materials Market Report 2025*, Textile Exchange, viewed July 2026, <https://textileexchange.org/app/uploads/2025/09/Materials-Market-Report-2025.pdf>.
66 Global fibre mix percentages will not sum to 100%, as only selected commonly used fibres are presented.

Links to Further Information and Resources

Table 7 below provides links and descriptions for resources and tools that can support further learning and development for South Australian fashion brands looking to increase their circularity.

Table 7: Links to further information and resources

Resource	Description
South Australian Fashion Industry Association (SAFIA)	SAFIA is the representative body for South Australia's fashion industry, spanning apparel production, design and manufacturing. Through its membership network, SAFIA advocates for industry opportunities, supports sector growth, and helps connect industry with training and workforce development initiatives.
Green Industries SA (GISA)	Green Industries SA (GISA) is a South Australian Government agency that supports the state's transition to a circular economy. GISA works with industry, businesses and communities to improve resource efficiency, productivity, resilience and environmental outcomes. This includes supporting collaboration, partnerships, funding programs and initiatives that help reduce waste and keep materials in use for longer.
Seamless	Seamless is Australia's clothing product stewardship scheme, administered by Clothing Stewardship Australia. Seamless works with clothing brands, retailers and other stakeholders to reduce the environmental impacts of clothing and accelerate the transition to a circular clothing industry in Australia. Seamless emphasises that the transition to circularity is a shared responsibility. Seamless provides tools, resources and training to their membership base.
Ellen MacArthur Foundation	The Ellen MacArthur Foundation is a global organisation working to accelerate the transition to a circular economy. It develops and promotes circular economy thinking and works with businesses, academia, policymakers and institutions to support system-wide solutions at scale.
Australian Fashion Council (AFC)	The AFC is the peak body for Australia's fashion and textile industry. It advocates for a prosperous and creative Australian fashion and textiles industry on behalf of their members. It aims to build a vibrant and inclusive ecosystem for it's member base through education, collaboration and innovation.
Textile Exchange	Textile Exchange is a global non-profit organisation working to improve environmental outcomes across the textile industry. It supports brands, manufacturers and producers to improve practices from the start of the supply chain. Textile Exchange provides tools and resources to help transform how materials are produced, selected and reused, with a focus on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and supporting long-term value for people and nature.
WRAP	WRAP is a global organisation that works with governments, businesses, NGOs and academia to support more sustainable use of resources. It's textiles work focuses on helping businesses reduce the impact of textiles through better design, new business models, improved reuse and recycling systems, and consumer behaviour research and insights. WRAP also provides evidence and guidance to support policy development and help businesses respond to changing policy requirements.
Authentified	Authentified is a digital consignment service that helps fashion brands facilitate resale and enables customers to sell pre-loved items through secondary marketplaces such as eBay and Depop. For brands, Authentified can support branded resale programs without requiring brands to operate their own resale marketplace. For customers, it can integrate with a brand's website so items can be listed for resale directly from a customer's past order history. Authentified manages the resale process from listing through to sale, helping brands and consumers to reduce the time, cost and resources required to participate in secondary markets.
Dress for Success	Dress for Success is a global non-profit organisation that supports women to achieve economic independence through professional clothing, support networks and career development tools. It accepts donations of professional attire suitable for job interviews and workplace settings, helping women access clothing they may need to enter or re-enter employment. Dress for Success also encourages individuals, groups and businesses to support its work through clothing donation drives, corporate partnerships and other initiatives that create lasting community impact.
Circular Sourcing	Circular Sourcing is a Melbourne-based digital marketplace that connects fashion brands, designers and home sewists with high-quality surplus materials and surplus fabrics. The platform helps keep existing fabrics in circulation by making it easier to source and use materials that may otherwise be wasted.
Circular Sourcing: DIY Fabric Care Testing	A practical guide to fabric care testing, with detailed instructions for conducting shrinkage and temperature tests, wash temperature tests, and tumble dry shrinkage tests. It also includes guidance on common care instructions for different fibre types.
iFixit	iFixit is an online repair platform that provides free repair guides, manuals and educational resources for a wide range of products, including apparel.
APCO	The Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation (APCO) is a not-for-profit organisation leading the transition to a circular economy for packaging in Australia. APCO works with governments and businesses to improve packaging design, increase resource recovery, and reduce the environmental impacts of packaging.

Government of South Australia

Green Industries SA

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rawtec