



The Bower Reuse and Repair Centre

Clothing collection program

The Bower Reuse and Repair Centre partners with King Cotton to divert the Australian surplus of wearable clothing, shoes, accessories and manchester from landfill.

Australians are the world's [second largest consumer of textiles](#). We dump 500 million kg clothing every year. This amounts to 23 kg per Australian or 6 ton per 10 minutes.

	<p>Typical Quality</p> 
<p>Craig Reucassel visualised in ABC War on Waste 6 ton of clothing going to landfill per 10 minutes</p>	<p>Typical range and quality of wearables clothing items we collect for reuse.</p>

Because the Australian second-hand market for clothing is saturated King Cotton rehomes 95% to Africa, where these clothes are worn by people who can't afford buying new. King Cotton sells them to wholesalers in the Middle East, who transports and sells them in Africa. In the absence of a sustainable clothing industry in Africa 90% of clothes worn is 2nd-hand.

		
<p>King Cotton's process to bale for shipment an Australian mix of wearable clothing</p>		

	
<p>Sorting, cleaning and repair by wholesalers in Middle East</p>	