

# Make your own steel can planter!

Activity overview: Reduce, reuse, recycle! In this craft activity, you will make a planter out of a used steel can. This is a great example of the second R of waste reduction, reuse.

Reuse: To use something again for either the same or a different purpose.

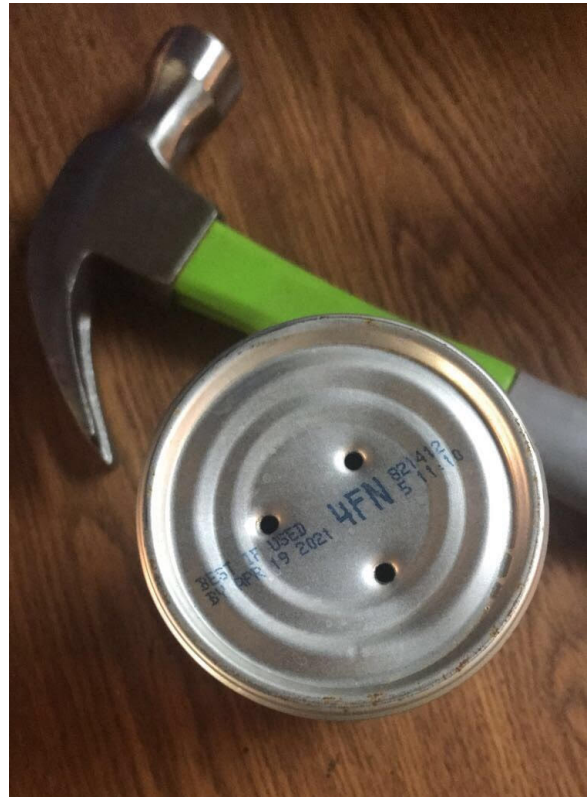
Time needed: 15 min

Materials needed:

- Cleaned out steel can
- Hammer
- Nail
- Any crafting materials to decorate your can
- Small rocks
- Potting soil
- Seeds or single plant/succulent
- Drip pan (if planter will be inside)



Step one: Using the hammer and nail, create three holes at the bottom of the can. These holes will drain excess water.



Step two (optional): If you choose to decorate your can, it is easiest to do so now. Ideas for decoration include painting, wrapping a bow, or creating a funny face!



Step 3: Add enough small rocks to the bottom of the can to cover the bottom.

Step 4: Add potting soil to the can. Place the plant or seeds in the soil. Add more soil to cover. We chose to use chia grass, so our planter will have hair!



Discussion:

Why might using a used steel can be better than purchasing a new planter?

What are some other examples of reusing? Some ideas include:

- Reusable water bottle vs. disposable plastic bottles
- Reusable grocery bags vs. plastic grocery bags
- Using old towels as rags
- Given outgrown clothes to younger siblings
- Donating items that are still in good condition
- Using jars as containers or vases
- Using tupperware instead of plastic bags

If you have any questions, please contact Keep Blount Beautiful at [keepblount@gmail.com](mailto:keepblount@gmail.com).

We'd love to see your planters! You can send pictures to [keepblount@gmail.com](mailto:keepblount@gmail.com).