

Future Fashion/ Make Do and Innovate

By Sally Turner

Do It Yourself Fashion is making a comeback and now is our time to shine!

It's all about using what we already have and making it new. Enjoying the process as much as the finished product. Something more personal, and slowing fashion down; the opposite of fast fashion.

At Core we can pioneer a new movement. Let's call it "**Make Do and Innovate**".

First of all a few thank yous;

To Paul and Giuliana, Tessy and the Core Staff team for making this way of working possible and so quickly and to
Elly for organising our worksheets to be sent out.
And to all of you wonderful Members, for your kind patience and enthusiasm while we adjust.
And welcome new members!

David Attenborough said: "Live the way you want to live, but just don't waste."

At Core Arts, most of the fabric and leather we use in the Fashion & Accessories Department, is surplus material, redistributed from fashion, textile and accessories companies, so this means we already help to reduce landfill in the short term. With Make Do and Innovate we can reduce waste even more, by repurposing and reinventing what we already have.

In Future fashion/ Identity, we talked about **HOW** we wear clothes and accessories, how styling outfits differently can create something uniquely yours, whilst connecting with others through mutual references.

Make Do and Innovate is about **WHAT** we wear, or decorate our interiors with, reconfiguring and reimagining individual items, deconstructing and reconstructing.

Using all kinds of techniques and references to elevate up-cycling and customisation to the next level.
And knowing we are being kinder to the environment.

What to Use

Make Do & Innovate is about looking at your wardrobes and floordrobes and chairdrobes, repurposing things that have already been used and worn and you perhaps don't want any more. Some people are using old pillow cases to make NHS wash bags for example.

A way to start, might be to make a small pile of things you were thinking of throwing out, and another pile of things that need mending or adjusting in some way.

Sometimes gathering things together can be an enjoyable process in itself, so allow yourself time. Anything can be added to your pile. Clean plastic food containers might be good to cut out big sequins, or a visor! It doesn't only have to be clothing or household textiles.

You can then start experimenting. Expect the unexpected. Part of the process is finding out what does and doesn't work. And we can only do that if we experiment.

And not to worry if you need to buy or use something new in your innovations. This is about doing a bit better, making Fashion more sustainable, not singlehandedly saving the world!

The History:

The name “**Make Do and Innovate**” is a play on “**Make Do and Mend**”, created in the 1940’s during rationing. The popularity of this, inadvertently created fashion trends that lasted well into the 1950’s and beyond, such as contrast collars and cuffs, inspired by taking remnants of one item of clothing and grafting it on to another. Although specifically aimed at women, it significantly challenged gender conventions in terms of both clothing and roles in society.

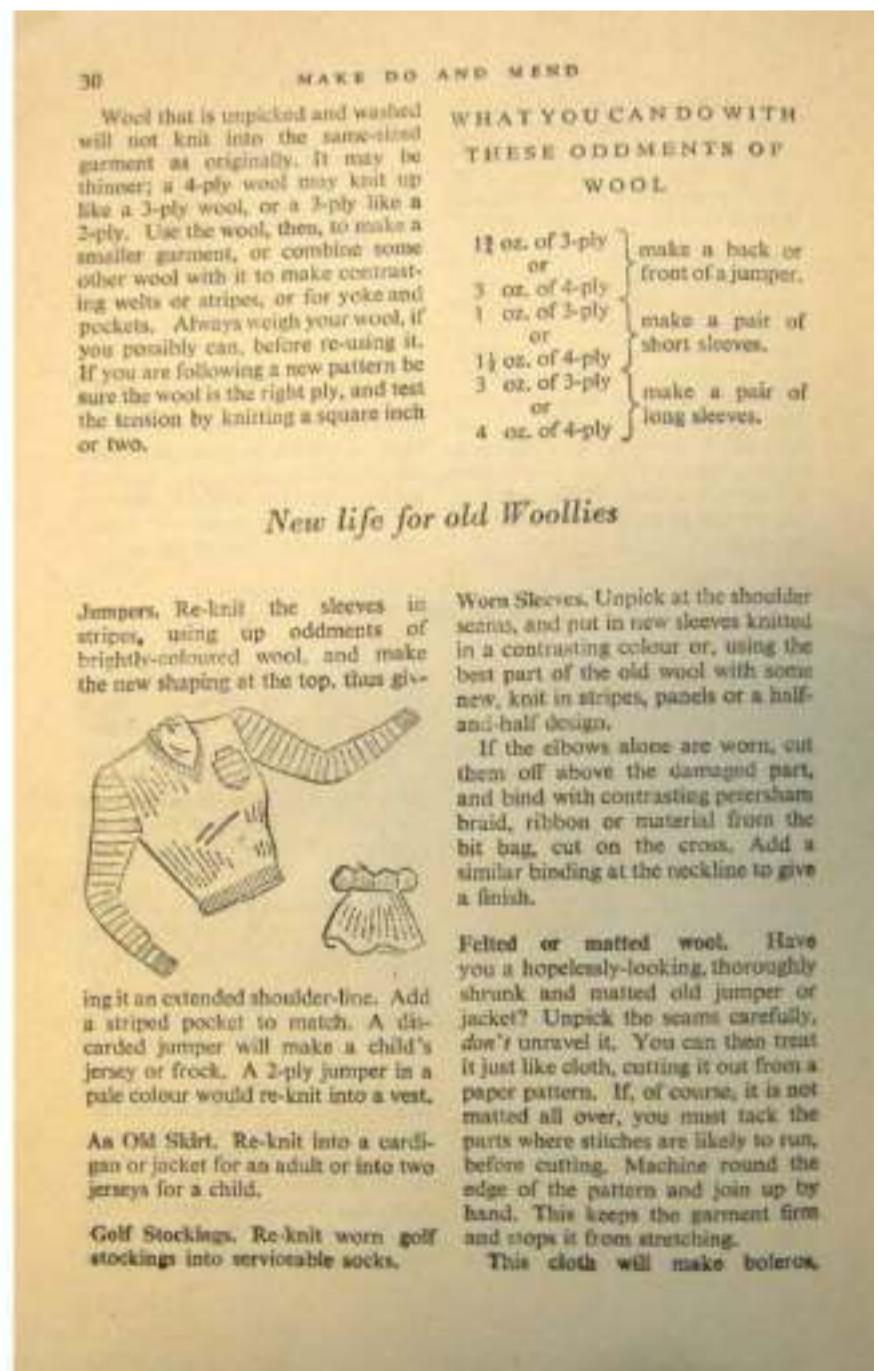
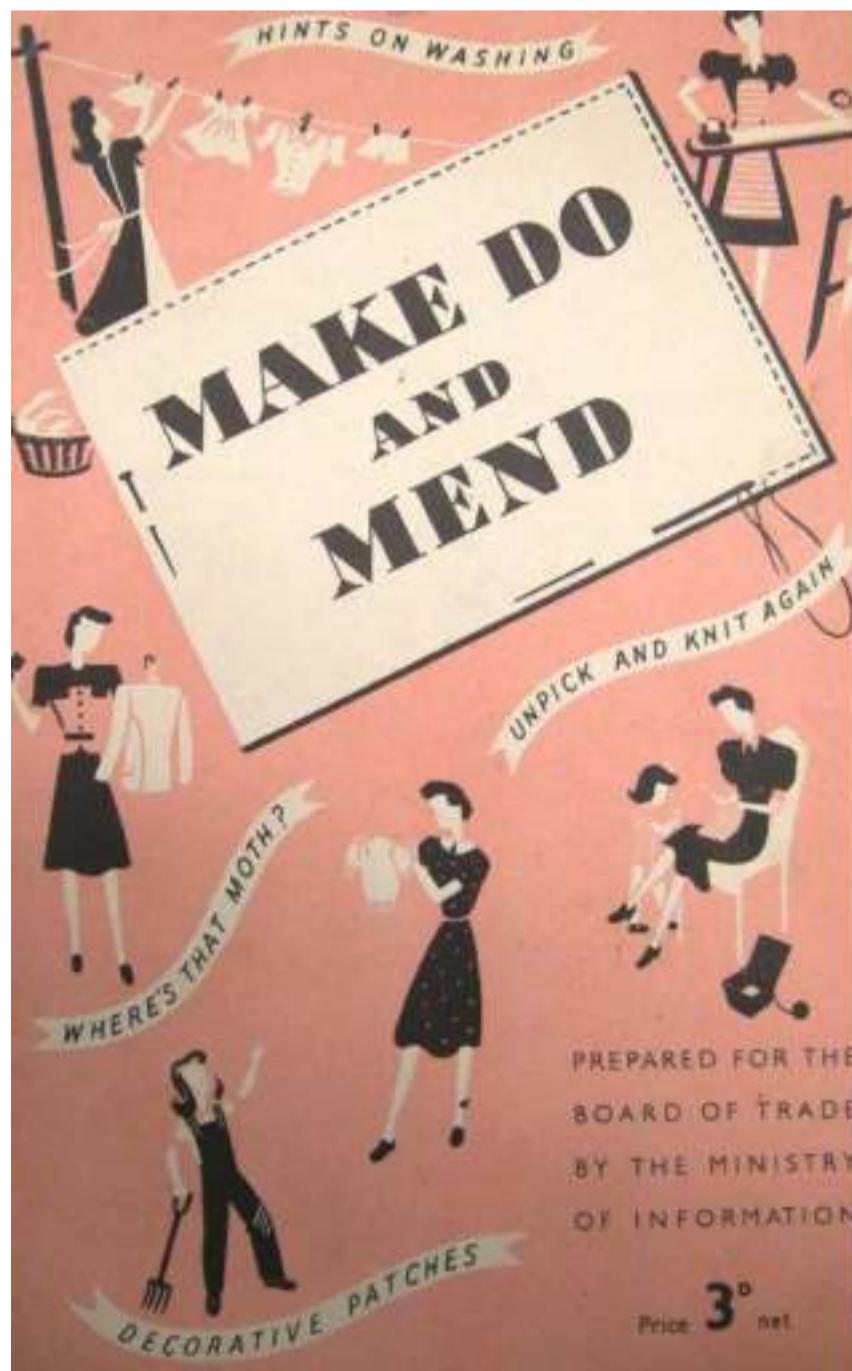
It seems timely for this kind of reuse and repurposing ethos to make a comeback, and we are in a perfect position to look at what resources we already have around us.

Of course in modern times, collectively we don’t have scarcity of clothing, we have excess, so the creative possibilities are endless.

“Make Do and Mend was a pamphlet issued by the British Ministry of Information in the midst of WWII. It was intended to provide housewives with useful tips on how to be both frugal and stylish in times of harsh rationing.

With its thrifty design ideas and advice on reusing old clothing, the pamphlet was an indispensable guide for households. Readers were advised to create pretty ‘decorative patches’ to cover holes in worn garments; unpick old jumpers to re-knit chic alternatives; turn men’s clothes into women’s; as well as darn, alter and protect against the ‘moth menace’. An updated version of the book was recently released to coincide with the economic recession, offering similar frugal advice for 21st century families.”

Info quoted from the British Library



Novelty Accessories Made From Scraps



Crochet brooch from the 1940s.
You could use scraps of yarn from
an unravelled jumper



Felt Flower corsage from the 1940s



Maison Margiela 2020 collection
incorporating a 40s style felt corsage
on the scarf



Flowers made from zips, by Zippitydoodah in New Zealand. The plastic and metal zip teeth create different effects.



Vintage 1940s hats made from felt, from the private collection of Sally Turner.

Scraps and Trims



Leather bag and patchwork fabric strap
by Sally Turner



Leather keychains with
fabric scraps through chains
by Sally Turner

Thom Browne Spring / Summer 2020



Adidas X Jeremy Scott



Tech Fabrics

All these garments and accessories from NIKE look like pieces of different garments grafted together. Tech fabrics are great fun to Make Do and Innovate.



Slashing and Patching



Vivienne Westwood



Outfit by Ashley Stewart



Maison Margiela



Thom Browne Fall 2020



Junya Watanabe

Bleaching, Painting & Dyeing



Diana Ross in a Cam Parker Custom jacket
You can use fabric paints or ordinary acrylic paints to paint fabric. Acrylic paint might wash out a bit, so it's worth testing out first if you intend to wash the garment



Garments by Sally Turner
These Are all the pieces taken off the shirt

Partially deconstructing garments can help you to learn about garment construction as well being part of the process of something new. Can you guess which components went where?

The pieces you remove could be used on another garment. It's really about experimenting



Dress by Sally Turner

Bleaching can lead to amazing effects. The thin kind of bleach is better for this than thick bleach. Make sure you wash out thoroughly afterwards, and protect your hands and eyes and other clothes and textiles.

If you choose to experiment with bleach, take care to wear old clothes as it is likely to splash. It can also damage some fabrics, so experiment only with things you don't mind if it damages.

This technique of cutting holes and embroidering them is called "broderie anglaise", sometimes also referred to as "eyelet" fabric. The edge is cut in a scallop pattern and finished with blanket stitch.



Dip dyed shirt by Sally Turner



Maison Margiela

This is a great brand to look at for deconstructing and reconstructing garments in different ways. Maybe merging garments together, or replacing areas with pieces of fabric. Sometimes its the surface treatment of the textile, cutting shapes in or appliquing old labels



Minki, Spring / Summer 2018

"Born in Hong Kong, Minki Cheng graduated from Central Saint Martins in 2012. He has a focused passion in forward experimental fabrications, yet remaining grounded love of real people and situations, constantly looking for emotional resonance with his audience."

Info from notjustalabel.com

