

What are Fix-It Clinics?



- Free community events
- Space for
 - People to bring broken/non-working items for repair
 - People with repair skills to share knowledge and time
- Help keep items working and reduce waste
- Also called Fix-It Fairs, Repair Fairs, Repair Cafes

Goals

Environmental

- Decrease waste
- Reduce resource demand

Social

- Community connections
- Skill building/sharing

Economic

- No cost repairs
- Avoid buying new
- Reduce costs of disposal



What can be fixed and mended?

- Antique radios
- Blenders
- Camping lanterns
- Clothing and other fabric items
- Coffee makers
- Dremel tools
- DVD players
- Electric kettles
- Fans
- Flashlights
- Hair dryers
- Headsets
- Jewelry
- Lamps
- Luggage
- Paper shredders
- Remote controls
- Sewing machines
- Small furniture
- Stereos
- Toaster ovens
- Toasters
- Toys
- Vacuums



What can't/won't be fixed or mended?

Some items will not be included for repair at these events due to safety, time, or size.

- Items with gas engines (unless the event is outdoors and other precautions are taken)
- Microwaves (most of the time)
- Electronics such as smartphones and tablets (software assistance is a possibility)
- Large items (that can't be carried by one person)
- Textile items such as coats requiring full zipper replacements; small zippers (like in a skirt) are ok
- Items that are excessively dirty

Safety first!

- Waiver - Sign at your first event
- Test electrical items carefully
- Wash hands before eating and before you head home.

If you don't feel comfortable or don't have the skills to make a repair, don't do it!

Logistics of event

- Hosts and volunteers arrive/setup
- Attendees arrive and check in
- Match with fixer when someone is available
- Float around and look at other repairs.
- Work together to troubleshoot repairs.
- Utilize resources available and online to fix.



Repair and teach



One of the big goals of these events is to inspire others to learn repair skills

- Encourage attendee to participate - remove screws, help clean items, etc.
- Use technical terms, but explain them to ensure attendees know what they mean
- Work together to find a repair solution
- Be patient and have fun!

Troubleshooting

What if we can't fix an item?

- Missing parts

What if we break something further or make it worse?

- Attendees sign waiver



Supplies

We will provide many items including

- Small hand tools - screwdrivers, hexwrenches
- Extension cords
- Multimeter
- Various parts
- Glues
- Mending - thread, patching materials, buttons, iron



What to bring?

Reusable water bottle

Tools

- Not required, but helpful to bring a small toolbox of basics
- Unique items can support more repairs
- Sewists - ideally bring sewing machine
- Label everything! You can do initials or some other distinguishing mark

Enthusiasm!

Orientation Slides by ReUse Minnesota

Thank you all for helping your community and your environment!



FREE FIX+IT CLINICS

Learn • Repair • Connect • Mankato, MN