

R|A|M

Zero Waste Wearable Necklace Inspired by Robert W. Ebendorf

Make an upcycled, wearable necklace at home using supplies often found in the kitchen, junk drawer, or recycling can. Take inspiration from Robert W. Ebendorf's necklace entitled, *Off the Street, From the Beach Necklace*, made entirely out of trash that he collected from the beach. Don't have any materials? Go on a scavenger hunt in and around your home to collect items that can be used to construct your upcycled, wearable necklace.



Robert W. Ebendorf
*Off the Street, From the Beach
Necklace, 1992*
Found plastic objects and base metal
2 1/8 x 14 3/4 inches diameter
Racine Art Museum
Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Brent Best
Photography: Tom Van Eynde

Instructions

1. Begin by going on a scavenger hunt in and around your home. The most important item will be string, yarn, lanyard or whatever else you can find to string your items together.

What else can you use? Straws, paper plates, metal junk, caps, foams, string, packaging parts, newspaper, wire, postcards, plastic utensils, cardboard, coffee filters, etc.



2. Assemble your items in an order. Decide how you want to design your upcycled necklace, and which items should be strung where.



3. Once you have your design decided upon, begin to string your upcycled necklace, starting from the inside and working toward the outside.

4. Get creative with how you string objects. Think about wrapping, twisting, gluing, or taping items together to make them threadable.



5. After stringing all your upcycled items, tie the ends of your string in a knot to hold the loop closed. And, voilà! You have created your very own upcycled, zero waste necklace inspired by the work of Robert W. Ebendorf.

Sample of finished upcycled necklace

