Sustainable Living Guide

Full Circle & rotan



Refill.
Reuse.
Gift well.

ecocommunitiesuk.com · rotan.uk

Two ways to shop with purpose

Full Circle is our not-for-profit refill shop from Eco Communities. Every refill and reuse purchase funds community projects right here in Cheshire. Collect from four hubs: Hoole Community Centre, Neston Community Youth Centre, Helsby Library and Cheshire Home Store in Chester Market.

rotan is our sister shop for thoughtful gifts and everyday home goods, made to be used, loved and kept. A share of rotan's profits supports Eco Communities.

Why Fill?

Fill products are made by a family-run company, formulated and manufactured in their own factory in Northamptonshire. Transparency, provenance and good chemistry sit at the heart of everything they do — every ingredient is sustainably sourced, cruelty-free, vegan and biodegradable.

Beyond safe, sustainable chemistry, Fill is built around refillable and recyclable packaging, at prices that make sustainable living genuinely accessible. Products that work brilliantly, look great, and help cut plastic waste — that's the standard.



Shop with purpose. Every refill, every reuse, every repair funds real change in Cheshire's communities.

Cheshire Home Store, Chester Market

We are so grateful for our space in Cheshire Home Store, our first open hub, where you can browse the refill range in person. Order your Full and Refill products through the Full Circle online shop, then show the staff your order email to collect. Or you can purchase them on the day via the till.

You can also buy many of the rotan gifts, kits and home goods in this guide at the shop's till.



Help Us Build Towards Refill Schools

Every Full Circle purchase, and a share of rotan's profits, already funds our work across Cheshire, but we're aiming higher. We want to bring **Refill Schools** to life: a retail trial in two primary schools, giving pupils and staff the equipment, resources and training to run their own refill and reuse scheme. Alongside this, we'll deliver circular economy workshops and assemblies in up to 25 schools, helping the next generation understand reduce, reuse, repair, refill and repurpose, not just in theory, but hands-on.

Sustainable Kitchen

Small swaps in the kitchen make a big difference. Our Refill range of laundry, wash up and cleaning liquids - plus our reusable kitchen essentials, cloths, pot brushes & scourers — helps you cut down on single-use plastic without cutting corners on quality.



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Sustainable Bathroom

Our Refill bathroom range — body wash, micellar water, shampoo and conditioner — lets you top up again and again instead of buying new plastic bottles each time. Simply bring your own bottle, or pick up a Full Circle refillable one to start.

From compostable loofahs to konjac sponges and organic cotton facial pads, our plastic-free bathroom essentials swap out single-use products for ones that last — kinder to your skin, and to the planet.

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MAKE YOUR OWN

Clean with RAW

Three simple basics from our RAW range clean almost every room, with no plastic bottles and no harsh chemicals. Order them from the Full Circle shop.

Cleaning vinegar

Glass & general cleaning: dilute or use neat.

Descale the toilet: add warm water to the bowl, add ½ cup, leave 1 hour, then flush.

Bathroom clean: mix 1:1 with water, spray on, wipe off.

Citric acid

Descale the kettle: half fill, boil, add 2 tsp, stand until cool. Rinse well and boil fresh water.

Descale the toilet: add warm water to the bowl, add 2 tbsp, leave 1 hour, then flush.

Bathroom clean: 1 tsp in 1 litre of water, spray on, leave 30 secs, wipe off.

Bicarbonate of soda

Boost your laundry: add 2 tbsp to the machine drawer.

Hard surfaces: mix 1:100 with water.

Absorb odours: sprinkle in the bottom of bins or containers.

Three easy recipes

Clean your washing machine like a dream

Wipe the drawer and door seal with 1:1 vinegar and water. Add 4 tbsp citric acid to the empty drum and run the hottest cycle. Leave the door open to dry. Once a month keeps limescale and smells away.

Shift soap scum & limescale

Spray tiles, taps and screens with 1 tsp citric acid in 1 litre of water. For stubborn marks, sprinkle bicarb on a damp cloth and scrub gently. Rinse with clean water and buff dry.

Unblock your plughole

Pour 2 tbsp bicarb down the plughole, then ½ cup vinegar. Let it fizz for 15 minutes, then flush through with hot (not boiling) water. Repeat if needed.

Stay safe: vinegar and citric acid are acidic. Don't use them on natural stone (like granite, marble or quartz), unsealed grout or waxed surfaces. Test on an out-of-sight area first, and dilute further if you're unsure. Wear gloves, never mix with bleach, keep out of reach of children and do not drink.



Refill & Save

Eco Communities Full Circle Shop is a community led, not-for-profit project helping households across Cheshire reduce single use plastics and live more sustainably. Run by volunteers, with no big shop, just a growing community of people thinking differently about what we bring into our homes.

What the 'Refill' project does

Our refill project allows people to reuse 'Full' bottles again and again for:

- Laundry detergent and conditioner
- Household cleaning products including the RAW range
- Hair and body care products

Refillable - Full Bottles

Start with a full bottle, from one of our kits or the Full Circle online shop. The Fill bottles have the ingredients listed, which is a legal requirement. Check the range of cleaning, laundry, hair and body products. We also stock a range of RAW products allowing you to make your own cleaning products.

Refill

Once you have used your full bottle you can buy just the liquid. We hold larger containers for our top sellers allowing you to refill your existing bottle. For others we offer a bottle swap option, leave your empty bottle at the hub and collect a full replacement.



OUR SISTER SHOP

Meet rotan

Thoughtful gifts & everyday home goods. Made to be used, loved & kept.

rotan started life inside Eco Communities. As our eco gifts grew, we gave them a home of their own, so Full Circle can stay focused on refill.

We choose things built to last, from small makers, B Corps and businesses turning waste into something useful. Fewer, better things, not another next-day parcel that won't last the year.

rotan shares its profits with Eco Communities, helping fund refill, reuse and repair across Cheshire.





Shop online at rotan.uk or at the till in Cheshire Home Store, Chester Market.

NATURAL MATERIALS

Grown, not made from plastic

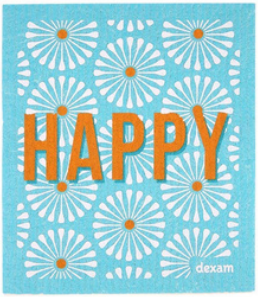
Most sponges, scourers and cloths are made from plastic that sheds microplastics and never breaks down. These natural alternatives do the same job, then go back to the earth.

Coconut

Coconut shells and husk fibre are by-products of the coconut industry. Instead of being thrown away or burned, they're turned into scrubbers, brushes and bowls.



Wood pulp & recycled cotton dish cloths



Made from wood pulp cellulose from sustainably managed forests, plus waste cotton. Super absorbent, so one cloth replaces a lot of kitchen roll. Wash in the dishwasher or washing machine (up to 90°C) and reuse for months, then pop it in the compost.

Natural materials. No microplastics. Back to the earth.

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Konjac sponge



Made from the root of the konjac plant. Soft and gentle enough for faces and sensitive skin. When it's worn out, pop it in the compost.

Loofah

A loofah is a gourd that grows on a vine, just like a courgette. Once dried, its fibres make a natural scrubber. Plastic-free and compostable.



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Plant-bristle dish brushes

Use a dish brush with natural plant-bristles. Plastic-free, vegan and has an FSC® beech wood replaceable head. The brush head is removable and replaceable; the standard refill heads from our other range fit this brush. We have bamboo and silicone handle options.





Jute Baskets

One of the most sustainable plant fibres. It grows fast, mostly on rainwater, with little need for fertilisers or pesticides, and absorbs carbon as it grows. Strong and fully biodegradable.

Natural materials. No microplastics. Back to the earth.

RECYCLED & RECLAIMED

Made from waste, built to last

These products started life as something else. Turning waste into something useful keeps it out of landfill and saves the energy and raw materials needed to make something new. Every sari is different, so no two pieces are the same.



Recycled sari garland · £12.50

Leftover sari fabric is cut into colourful strands to make tinsel that comes out year after year, instead of plastic tinsel that gets thrown away. In Blue or Multi.



Sari hanging plant basket · £13

Made by skilled women artisans from recycled sari fabric and sustainable jute. A bright, natural home for a trailing plant.



Sari fold-out bag · £6.50

Made from reclaimed sari fabric, it folds into a little samosa-shaped pouch for your handbag, then opens out into a full-size shopping bag.

Recycled. Reused. Made to be used again and again.

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Recycled glass soap dispensers & candlesticks

Made from waste glass that's melted down and reshaped. Glass can be recycled again and again without losing quality. Small bubbles and colour variations are part of their charm.









Recycled cement bag bags

Cement sacks are tough woven plastic, used once and thrown away. These are cleaned and stitched into strong, reusable bags, so that plastic gets a long second life.

Recycled. Reused. Made to be used again and again.

Gifts that do good

Our rotan gift boxes are packed with plastic-free treats from small makers and B Corps, in a kraft box you can reuse. £14 to £35, at rotan.uk or Cheshire Home Store in Chester Market.



Hedge Hugs · £15

For hedgehog lovers: keyring, bracelet, shortbread and hot chocolate.



Cosy Night In · £25

Oil burner, wax melts, sari scrunchie and Pukka tea for a slow evening.



Calm & Unwind · £30

Ametrine skincare, gemstone jewellery and a fluffy bunny for bedtime.



Little Cheers · £15

Gherkin hip flask, B Corp pickles and cheese, and a recycled coaster.



Cheers · £25

Copper hip flask, recycled notebook, eco pen and B Corp gherkins.



The Rambler · £35

Copper flask, walk log notebook, B Corp cheese and organic shortbread.

Also in the range: Sunshine (£14), Desk Day (£14), Little Moments (£18), Snuggle Bunny (£22) and Moonlight (£35).

[Shop gift boxes at rotan.uk →]

Shop with purpose. A share of rotan's profits supports Eco Communities.

ECO GIFTS & MAKES

Little gifts, made by you

Plastic-free craft kits for stockings, party bags and rainy afternoons. Screen-free, creative and kind to the planet.



The Mindful Gardener · £7.50

Slow crafting for busy minds. Make your own mini paper plants: calming lavender, healing aloe vera or soothing succulent. A plant that never needs watering.



Little makers · £4 each

Create your own Tiny Turtle, Buzzy Bumble Bee, Hiding Hedgehog or Dino finger puppet, each with games and nature facts. Plus fairy and superhero peg dolls and friendship bracelet kits.



Learn to stitch · from £3.50

A first step into sewing and repair: stitch-your-own butterfly keyring (£3.50), wooden owl hand-stitch set (£4), stitching cards (£8) and a dress-up dolly kit (£10).

Stocking fillers: woodland colouring pencils and Forest Friends mini colouring games, £3 each. All at rotan.uk and Cheshire Home Store.

Thank you for supporting Eco Communities UK CIC. Every Full Circle purchase, and a share of rotan's profits, helps fund our community projects across Cheshire, from refill schemes to reuse initiatives that make sustainable living easier for everyone.

Website: www.ecocommunitiesuk.com

Email: office@sustainablecheshire.uk

Instagram: @ecocommunities_

Facebook & LinkedIn: Eco Communities

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