

A Wheelie Great Way of Recycling Chewing Gum...



Design students from Nantes, France have developed a new system on recycling regular chewing gum and turning it into skateboard wheels.

They've managed to do this through a quick and easy method of setting up special collection boards in and around urban areas of Nantes, France so that tourists or locals can stick their used gum rather than dropping it on the floor.



How does it work?

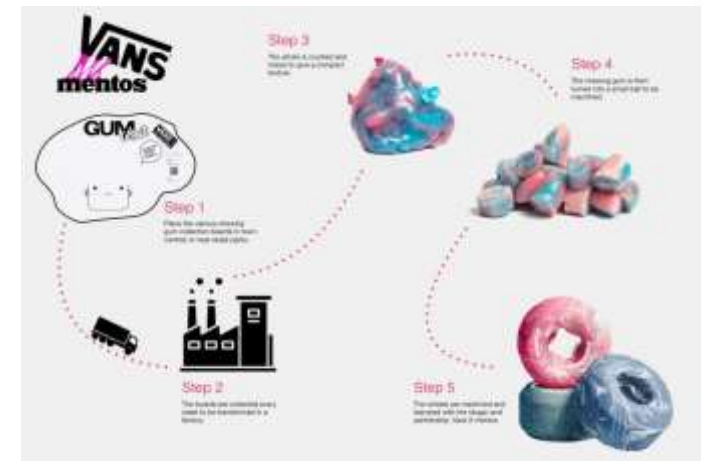
The gum is collected each week from the boards to prevent it from getting permanently stuck to the collection board which is made from polymethyl methacrylate plastic.

This plastic helps stabilise the gum when it is then melted down in to skateboard wheels.

According to an online source 10 to 30 pieces of gum are needed per wheel to achieve the desired size and hardness.



Did you know chewing gum can take up to 1000 years to decompose? This shows how important it is to recycle your chewing gum or dispose of it properly.



What effect does chewing gum have on our planet?

- Animals can often mistake chewing gum for food, harming them
- Dropping gum creates visual pollution
- Chewing gum is made from polymers that do not biodegrade. This is why recycling gum into something like skateboard wheels is so important

Did you know chewing gum can also be recycled into things such as coffee cups, lunchboxes and guitar picks?

This new system is so innovative and creative and if these boards were to be installed in urban areas around the world, then that can have a huge positive impact on the planet. Let's hope everyone else can follow!



It is stated that as little as 10 percent of this gum is disposed of correctly in the UK local councils have to spend a whopping £60 million a year cleaning up the other 90 percent. So next time you're chewing gum, make sure to dispose of it correctly using a chewing gum bin, or one of these boards!