

12. Recycling Design prize



How can the future be sustainably changed through design? What visions can innovative re- and upcycling ideas open up? The "RecyclingDesignprize", which has been organised by the Arbeitskreis Recycling e.V., Herford, in cooperation with Marta Herford since the museum was founded in 2005 and approximately every two years, offers answers to these questions.

The RecyclingDesignprize is an open competition for the sustainable design of new products from waste and residual materials, for which (semi-)professional creatives can apply. The submissions showcase current developments in the fields of materials research and circular economy, social design, and transformation design, and demonstrate how design can influence sustainable processes.

The most convincing designs are selected by a specialist jury from several hundred entries from all over the world and presented as "Outstanding Ideas" in an exhibition at Marta Herford and subsequently at cooperating institutions. The first three places are each endowed with prize money.

Objective

Innovative, imaginative, and original upcycling ideas; new developments in materials research and recycling management as well as social design and transformation design - everyday items, furniture, clothing, textiles, accessories, and conceptual designs made from obsolete materials or production residues.

Participants

The RecyclingDesignprize is an open competition in which all creative individuals and designers with professional or semi-professional training are invited to submit their work and designs, with no age restrictions.

Evaluation criteria

- At least one of the following characteristics should apply to your submission.
- Design quality
- Utility value
- Novelty and future potential
- Feasibility for mass production by small businesses, employment initiatives, workshops, or institutions employing people with disabilities

You can also find guidance on the homepage, where all previously exhibited works are documented.

Overview RecyclingDesignprize

Arbeitskreis Recycling e.V.

RecyclingBörse! Herford
Kiebitzstraße 33
32051 Herford

Fon: 05221 / 19 7 19
E-Mail: tip@recyclingboerse.org



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Closing date for entries: 31.08.2026

PRIZES

1st prize: 2.500 euros

2nd prize: 1.500 euros

3rd prize: 1.000 euros

No entry fee!

Availability of the works for the exhibitions is a condition.

A selection of the most interesting entries will be presented along with the award-winning »Outstanding Ideas« in an exhibition at Marta Herford.

Opening: 12.03.2027

The works will subsequently be displayed at Neues Museum Nuremberg and Zitadelle Spandau, Berlin.
(The total exhibition period is approximately 10 months.)

Organizer:

**Arbeitskreis Recycling e.V. / RecyclingBörse! Herford
in cooperation with Marta Herford**

Registration for the 12th RecyclingDesignprize

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Registration for the 12th RecyclingDesignPrize

Online registration is a three-step process. You will need

- Your personal details (name, address, etc.)
- Short biography
- Details about your project
- Details about the materials used and their origin
- Four photos (two overall views, two details)
- Construction plan/manufacturing instructions in keywords (sketchy, as .jpg, .pcx, .rtf, .doc, .pdf)
- Optional: Information about manufacturing (technique); as .rtf, .doc, .pdf
- Optional: two files with further information about the work; as .rtf, .doc, .pdf.

For example: if you have a small brochure about your project, or if you want to send a small booklet or similar. However, this is expressly not a prerequisite for your participation.

First

Write or copy your texts into the form fields.

Select the images and documents from your hard drive, CD, or similar.

Second

Click on Upload. Your images and documents will now be uploaded.

Please note: The upload may take some time, depending on the file size of your images and the speed of your internet connection.

Third

After the upload, you will see a confirmation of your registration.

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