

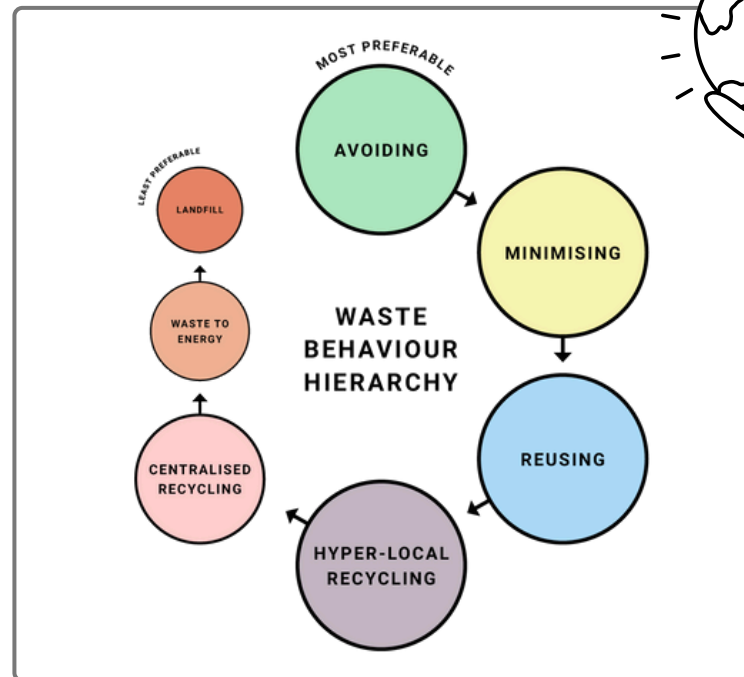
# Re-think your waste!

Landfills are overflowing and harming the environment, but did you know there are other ways to manage our resources?

## What is the 'circular economy'?

An economic system where materials are kept in use for as long as possible instead of being sent to landfill. This system reduces pollution, increases business opportunities and improves the health of our environment.

Need help recycling or reusing a specific material?  
Visit <https://businessrecycling.com.au/>



## CIRCULAR ECONOMY CHECKLIST

For Grocery Stores

### 1 AVOID BUYING NEW

- We offer discount baskets.** We sell tired produce at a lower price to customers (e.g. bruised fruit & veg that can be used for baking), and discount items that are near their best-before date.
- We prioritise refillable & reusable products.** We have asked our distributor if they offer refillable products to avoid single use containers (e.g. Dr Planet refillable 20L soap containers).
- We have eliminated single use check out items.** Our customers bring their own bags and get email or text receipts.

### 2 MINIMISE WASTE

- We promote buying in bulk.** Customers can refill products or buy large quantities. This reduces packaging for our customers (e.g. bulk dry goods like spices, grains & oils).
- We store food correctly** ensuring our ingredients are used to their fullest potential (e.g. wrapping greens in a damp cloth) to minimise waste.
- Products that have reached their best-before dates are still used.** We minimise waste by giving goods to staff, or take up programs like *SecondBite* who provide relief to the vulnerable in our community.

### 3 REUSE & REPAIR

- We stock products that are made of reused / recycled materials** (e.g. pasta in a recycled cardboard box, re-fillable peanut butter).
- We reuse packaging materials.** Our suppliers use reusable crates, otherwise we utilise cardboard from our deliveries to customers for carrying groceries.
- We incorporate repairs into our business.** We repair our furniture, equipment and uniforms when they break, rather than sending them to landfill.

### 4 RECYCLE

- We separate materials into their bins.** Our shop's bins match the outside bin area, (e.g. general waste, recycling, cardboard, soft plastics, organics) which makes our recycling easy and effective!



**Did you know?**  
In our recent survey, only 30% of grocery staff knew that food waste is the biggest contributor to greenhouse gases in landfill.

### LANDFILL

- We limit the waste we put in landfill, because we know it creates dangerous emissions that pollute the environment and harm communities.*

