

# Library of Things

A Library of Things is in many ways like a normal library, you sign up as a member and borrow items you need. However, rather than books, and possibly other media, Library of Things loans a variety of items, from power tools to camping equipment, and a whole host in between. Each Library of Things will be different, they set their own fees and charges, terms of use and items on offer, based on their local needs.



The reason behind Library of Things is to reduce the amount of materials being used/made and increase the usage of the materials already in existence. “The average drill is used for only 13 minutes in its entire lifetime.” (<https://sharefrome.org/>). So ‘What if, instead of buying that drill, you could borrow one instead?’.

Below are a list of existing Libraries of Things, all of which give slightly different examples of how they can be managed. Share Frome are also working on a toolkit to help other groups set up their own ones. We would suggest getting in touch directly if you would like to find out more.

<https://www.libraryofthings.co.uk/>  
<https://sharefrome.org/FAQs/>  
<https://www.sharedshed.org.uk/>  
<https://bathlibraryofthings.org.uk/>



Further help and tips also available here:

<https://www.shareable.net/how-to-start-a-library-of-things/>

If you don't have a Library of Things near you, and you do not want to set one up, you could always look at joining a different loaning model such as [FatLlama.com](https://FatLlama.com) where individuals list an item for rent so others can rent it rather than buy it.

♥ ♻️ Let us make renting the new norm! ♻️ ♥