

Choosing Wisely

We're all doing our part. But when it comes to everyday necessities, tiny tweaks can make a substantial difference.

A NEW BAG OF TRICKS

Trash turned into treasure, Ecoist handbags are crafted of materials that would otherwise be headed for a landfill. The Miami-based company transforms misprinted and surplus candy wrappers, soda labels, and food packaging from companies like Coca-Cola and Mars into playful, chic clutches, totes, and messenger bags. Visit ecoist.com.



YOU WEAR IT WELL

Truly low-impact living means buying everything local—and thanks to fashion label Doucette Duvall, eco-conscious New York girls can stock their closets with colorful frocks made right in the Garment District. The sassy line by designers Stephanie Doucette and Annebet Duvall is handcrafted using only leftover fabric and trim salvaged from local textile mills. Visit doucetteduvall.com.



REST EASY

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, almost half of the chemicals used in the cultivation of conventionally grown cotton are suspected or known carcinogens. That scary fact inspired Robbie Mahlman and Susan Doris to make their luxury baby blankets, which are sold under the label Robbie Adrian, from only certified organic cotton. Trimmed in peace silk (made from cocoons in which caterpillars have been allowed to naturally complete their life cycle), the all-natural blankets come in multiple hues. And little ones aren't the only beneficiaries—Robbie Adrian makes adult versions, too. Visit robbieadrian.com.



SOLID AS A ROCK

It might look like polished granite, but IceStone is actually an earth-friendly alternative crafted from 100 percent



recycled glass mixed with concrete. As durable as granite, the glistening material can be used for countertops, floors, and backsplashes. Produced in a Brooklyn factory, IceStone is free of VOCs and petrochemicals and comes in 29 colors. Plus, it just won the environmentalist's version of the Oscar, becoming the only surface material to win Cradle to Cradle certification from sustainability pioneer William McDonough's firm, MBDC. *IceStone*, 63 Flushing Avenue, Unit 283, Building 12, Brooklyn, 718-624-4900; icestone.biz.



FLAVOR OF THE DAY

Who knew that most spices include anticaking agents, additives, fillers, stabilizing agents, and even added salt and sugar? Smart Spice is a line of 100 percent organic spices with no unexpected chemicals, which come in boxes of four single-serving one-teaspoon packets so you need no longer worry about half-full jars of ancient spices cluttering your cabinet (and losing potency and flavor).

Visit smart-spice.com.

by Sara Bliss

photographs by Heather Waraksa (DOUCETTE); Reagan Goss Drumheller at Redhead Companies (SMART SPICE); courtesy of IceStone LLC (ICESTONE)



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: Doucette Duvall; Robbie Adrian; IceStone; Smart Spice.



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