

# Mobile Phone Recycling

Mobile phones contain cadmium, a dangerous and toxic substance.

40 million people own at least one mobile phone and although approximately a third will change it this year, less than 5% will be recycled.

Mobile phones that are put into the waste stream end up in landfill sites. Corrosion to the batteries causes the cadmium to leak into the surrounding soil.

Countries with no landline infrastructure rely on mobile phones for communication.

## Re-use

Mobile Phones which are still in a sufficiently good state to be re-used are tested, reconditioned and then sold on again. Many people in developing countries benefit from the lower cost of these phones.

## Recycling

Phones that can't be re-used can be sent for recycling.

Metals are extracted from the handsets and the remaining material can be incinerated and used for heat generation with low emissions.

The chemicals from batteries are recovered and put back into productive use.

Plastic from phone chargers is recovered and made into items such as traffic cones and buckets.



## Links

### Recycle-a-Phone

[www.scope.org.uk/recycling/](http://www.scope.org.uk/recycling/)

*Donate your old, redundant, unwanted and broken mobile phones to raise funds for disabled people.*

### Recycling Appeal

[www.recyclingappeal.com](http://www.recyclingappeal.com)

*Collect old mobile phones to send to developing countries.*

### Oxfam

[www.oxfam.org.uk/what\\_you\\_can\\_do/recycle/phones.htm](http://www.oxfam.org.uk/what_you_can_do/recycle/phones.htm)

*The world's first mobile phone recycling scheme.*

### Corporate Mobile Recycling

<http://www.cmrecycling.co.uk>

*A company dedicated to providing a safe, practical and reliable proposition for mobile phones that are no longer used or required.*