

Vocabulary

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| A. garment | 1. a piece of clothing |
| B. to mend | 2. a person who repairs shoes as a job |
| C. cobbler | 3. a plan or program for achieving a particular goal |
| D. fund | 4. a sum of money saved or made available for a particular purpose |
| E. landfill | 5. a place where waste is buried in the ground |
| F. scheme | 6. repair (something that is broken or damaged) |

Reading

The French Government Pays to Repair your Clothes

France has launched a new **scheme** to reduce waste by encouraging people to repair their clothes and shoes instead of throwing them away. The French government will pay a "repair bonus" to people who have their **garments** and shoes **mended** in workshops or at **cobblers** that have joined the scheme.



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY](#)

The bonus will range from €6 to €25, depending on the repair cost. The scheme is part of a wider push by the French government's €154mio **fund** to reform the textile industry and combat fast fashion.

The textile industry is one of the most polluting industries on the planet, and an estimated 700,000 tons of clothing is thrown away in France every year, two-thirds of which ends up in **landfill**.

The scheme is run by the eco-organization Refashion, which aims to encourage people not only to repair and reuse but also to reduce the amount of textiles they buy and to donate those they no longer want. Refashion says that about 56% of donations can be used again, and 32% can be recycled into something new.

The scheme will also encourage workshops and retailers to offer repair services with the hope of creating jobs.

Comprehension:

1. What is the "repair bonus" and how much does it range from?
2. How much waste does the textile industry in France produce every year?
3. What is Refashion and what is its goal?

Discuss:

1. Why is the textile industry one of the most polluting industries on the planet?
2. How can repairing clothes and shoes help reduce waste and promote sustainability?
3. What are some other ways that individuals can reduce their environmental impact when it comes to fashion?
4. Do you think the French government's scheme will be successful in reducing textile waste? Why or why not?

Citations:

- [1] <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2023/jul/12/stitch-in-time-france-to-help-pay-for-clothes-to-be-mended-to-cut-waste>
- [2] <https://www.ban.org/news/2023/8/1/stitch-in-time-france-to-help-pay-for-clothes-to-be-mended-to-cut-waste>
- [3] <https://www.ehn.org/amp/stitch-in-time-france-to-help-pay-for-clothes-to-be-mended-to-cut-waste-2662269600>
- [4] https://www.reddit.com/r/news/comments/14zjpt9/stitch_in_time_france_to_help_pay_for_clothes_to/
- [5] https://www.linkedin.com/posts/cynthia-power-24963513_stitch-in-time-france-to-help-pay-for-clothes-activity-7085243072560680960-CaEQ