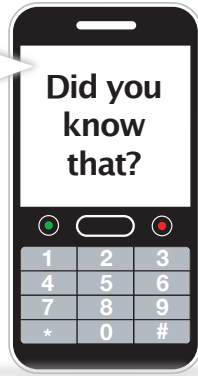


Mobile Phone Facts

There are an estimated 90 million unused mobile phones in the U.K today...

...That's about 2 unwanted mobile phones in every household in the country!



One misplaced mobile phone battery could potentially pollute 600,000 litres of water!



There's enough gold in 50 mobiles to make one gold wedding ring



Mobiles can end up in harmful landfill sites



On average, people in the UK upgrade their mobile phone every 18 months, but less than 5% of mobile phones are recycled.

The WEEE Directive is a piece of legislation (or law). WEEE stands for Waste Electrical and Electronic goods – this means things like mobile phones, i-pods and computers, and the WEEE Directive aims to prevent things like this being sent to landfill where they can harm the environment.

From all of the phones that are sent to Fonebank Schools, about 70% are repaired and resold. The other 30% are very old or very badly damaged phones, and these are recycled and their individual parts are reused. Phones that can be repaired are mostly sold in developing countries (for example in Ghana, Nigeria, Kenya, and other countries in Africa).

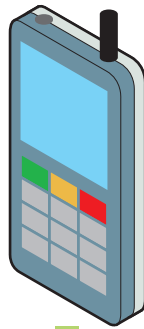
In many developing countries, getting a fixed landline can be difficult to do and very expensive. Second-hand mobile phones are an affordable means of communication that allow businesses to run more efficiently and families to stay in touch more easily.



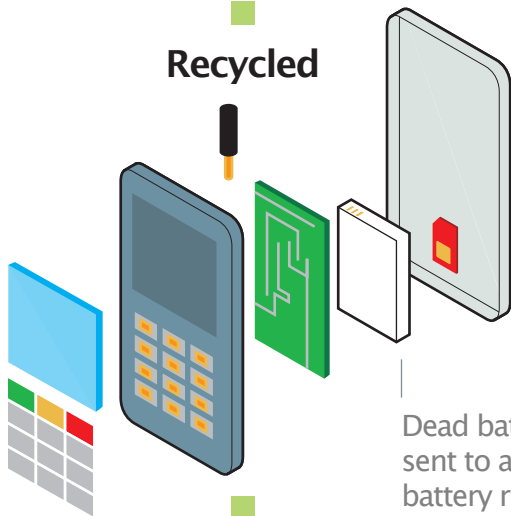
Africa

Flow Chart

Your Old Mobile

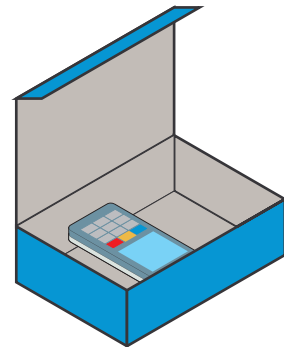


Recycled



Reused

Phones are fully tested and refurbished, repackaged and sold mostly in developing countries in Africa.



Dead batteries are sent to a specialist battery recycler. All materials are recycled safely and reused in industry. Unrepairable and obsolete handsets are sent to a specialist recycler in Sweden. Every part of the handset is recycled and reused.



£2.50

for your school or organisation

fonebank.com/schools

Mobile Phone Facts – Quiz

Test your knowledge about mobile phone recycling, how many can you get right?

- 1 On average, how many unused mobiles are there in each UK household?
- 2 How often do people in the UK upgrade their phones?
- 3 Give one reason why recycling your phone benefits people in England
- 4 Name two toxic substances that can be found inside a mobile phone
- 5 Name the part of a mobile phone that could pollute 600,000 litres of water
- 6 Give one reason why people in developing countries rely on mobile phones
- 7 How can a mobile phone affect the life of somebody living in a developing country?
- 8 Apart from toxic chemicals, name something else that can be found inside a mobile phone
- 9 What does WEEE stand for?
- 10 Name two other pieces of electrical or electronic equipment which can be recycled under the WEEE Directive