

UNDERSTAND AN ARTICLE ABOUT AN USUAL MALL

Imagine a mall where nothing is new. No brand-new clothes, no unopened electronics, no fresh furniture from a factory. Instead, everything is recycled, repaired, or repurposed. *The Green Loop Mall*, located in Portland, Oregon, is one of the world's first shopping centers built entirely around sustainability.

The mall has three floors. The first floor focuses on **recycled fashion**: clothing made from reused materials, repaired shoes, and redesigned accessories. Shoppers can bring old clothes and exchange them for store credit. The second floor features **upcycled electronics**, where technicians repair phones, laptops, and small appliances. Customers can buy refurbished devices at half the price of new ones. The third floor is an **eco-market**: a space for local makers who use recycled wood, metal, and plastic to create home décor, toys, and artwork.

What makes the mall unusual is not just the products—it's the experience. Workshops are held every week, teaching visitors how to repair clothes, fix electronics, or make crafts from leftover materials. Instead of buying more things, people learn how to take care of what they already have. The mall encourages a new question: *Before buying something new, can you reuse or repair what you already own?*

Green Loop Mall is becoming a model for other cities. By mixing shopping with sustainability, it shows that a mall can be more than a place to spend money—it can also be a place to learn, create, and protect the environment.

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Vocabulary

Word	Meaning	Example Sentence
Recycled	Made from materials that were used before	The mall sells recycled clothing made from old fabric.
Refurbished	Repaired and made like new	You can buy a refurbished phone for a lower price.
Upcycled	Reused in a way that adds value or improves the original item	These bags are upcycled from old vinyl banners.
Sustainability	Using resources in a responsible, long term way	The mall promotes sustainability through recycling.
Workshop	A class where you learn a practical skill	They offer a workshop to teach people how to repair shoes.
Exchange	To give something and receive something else	You can exchange old clothes for store credit.

Language Focus: Describing Places

When describing a place, we often use **adjectives** and **there is / there are**.

Examples from the reading:

- *There are* three floors in the mall.
- The mall has *recycled fashion stores*.
- *There is* an eco market on the third floor.

Structure

Form	Example
There is + singular noun	There is a workshop today.
There are + plural noun	There are many recycled products.
Adjective + noun	Upcycled electronics, eco friendly products

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Mini-Dialogues

1. Asking About the Mall

A: What's special about the Green Loop Mall?

B: There are shops that only sell recycled items. It's really unique.

2. Talking About Shopping Choices

A: Do they have refurbished phones?

B: Yes, there are many. They're cheaper than new ones.

3. Asking for Directions

A: Where's the eco market?

B: It's on the third floor. There are a lot of handmade products there.

Reference:

BBC Learning English. (s.f.) Grammar Reference. Too much / too many / enough / not enough / very. BBC Learning English.

Recovered from: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/course/lower-intermediate/unit-19/tab/grammar>