



Starting your own Repair Café

Where do I start?

Go to your local Repair Café to understand how it works and talk to the volunteers. If you register with the [Repair Café Foundation](#), you get a handy guide with templates and a listing on their map. You can also check out [The Restart Project](#), which tends to focus exclusively on electrical/electronic items.

What do I need?

The key thing is to have (1) enthusiast volunteers who love to repair, (2) promotion to ensure they have things to repair and (3) a space. When finding volunteers, ensure that you have a few who are comfortable with electrical items, as those tend to be the most frequent items brought in. You will also need someone who can welcome visitors & manage the queue.

Where do I find volunteers?

Start with friends & family, as well as local community or hobby groups. Contact nearby Repair Cafés to ask if any volunteers can help out (make sure you pick a different day than those Cafés!). Over time, volunteer repairers will reach out to you.

How do I promote the Repair Café?

This depends on your community: local press, newsletters, Facebook, Nextdoor, local radio. A map listing on the Repair Café Foundation website helps. Over time, word of mouth will be the main traffic driver.

What about insurance?

You will need public liability insurance for the event. As people are doing the repairs themselves and there is no guarantee on the repair (or commercial transaction), the volunteers are not liable. This is also clear from our "house rules"/"terms & conditions".

What are the costs?

Other than the insurance, we pay for the rent of the space, tea, coffee, milk & sugar.