



TIP TUESDAY

A weekly guide to help you
kick your plastic habits.



Dogs are a man's best friend - you wouldn't put your best friend in harm's way, would you? Plastic can be just as bad for pups as it is for humans. Since dogs rely on their owners for survival, try to make the best plastic-free decisions on their behalf.

Question: When was plastic first developed?

- **Dinner Time** - Try food bowls made from stainless steel, stone, ceramic, glass or bamboo. When purchasing dog food pay attention to the packaging - stick to bulk purchasing in recyclable or biodegradable packaging.
- **Clean Up the Mess - *Pet waste is a non-point source of coastal water pollution.*** Make sure you clean up your dog's poo! Neighbors will appreciate you for it and dog beaches and parks will remain clean



for everyone to enjoy. The most plastic-free way to dispose of your dogs waste is to flush it down the toilet (without a plastic bag, of course)!

- **Does Your Pup Shed?** An innovative, plastic-free solution to collecting all that unwanted dog hair is a wooden brush with rubber bristles, the static helps collect the hair for an easy clean-up!
- **Hair in Knots?** Skip the plastic combs that snap and break while you groom your pup! Try wooden brushes with natural bristles or heavy-duty stainless steel.
- **Play Time!** Tired of picking up small pieces of plastic or being constantly worried your dog's playtime will end with a digestive problem? Try items that you can fill with snacks like peanut butter, toys that are made from hemp and wool, or old fashioned games of fetch.

COA Staff Tip for a DIY Dog Toy:

A great way to recycle a plastic water bottle is to take an old t-shirt and wrap it securely around the water bottle, cutting strands of the shirt to braid or tie into individual knots. Dogs love the crinkle sound when they chew on the water

bottle, but the t-shirt prevents them from



chewing the plastic into a million pieces!

You can also try this with a sock and some doggy treats. [Click here for easy step by step instructions.](#)

Answer: The first synthetic polymer was invented in 1869 by John Wesley Hyatt.



Go Plastics-Free and end your plastic habits today!

- 1) [Click here to sign our pledge](#)
- 2) Tell us how you're doing and share your ideas
- 3) Encourage others to take the pledge
- 4) Spread the word via Social Media

Ideas or comments about Tip Tuesday? Contact Lauren: communications@cleanoceanaction.org

COA is pleased to announce that we have once again achieved the coveted status of Charity Navigator's 4-Star rating. Thanks to our ocean of supporters, COA is ranked in the Top 10 of organizations that work on ocean issues.



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