**A guide to ethical shopping:**

**Five tips for buying clothes more responsibly**

While low-priced garments may prove alluring for many cost-conscious consumers, there has been a growing movement among many to be more mindful in their buying habits. Five ways consumers can be more socially conscious and ethically minded in making purchases.

**1. GET EDUCATED.** In its online resource “Shopping for Change,” World Vision Canada offers suggestions for places consumers can consult [such as GoodGuide](http://www.goodguide.com/) and Fairtrade Canada to find out more about companies and their practices. Go beyond the information on tags and ask retailers and brands to disclose where products are made, including details on factories and subcontractors.

**3. SHOP LOCAL.** Even if a garment says it’s manufactured in Canada, the components of the item could come from elsewhere. When possible, shop at some of the small local shops that you have available to you, and that can really give you a far better sense of how those products were made, even the conditions of the factories where they were made.”

**4. CHECK CERTIFICATIONS.**  While buying clothing, seek out garments made of fabrics like organic cotton — and not just because it’s environmentally friendly. Often, when something is organic it also comes fair trade. Certification bodies provide some standard so that you know that someone is looking into the details of these practices.

**5. BUY SECONDHAND OR BE PREPARED TO SPEND MORE.**  There are many ways to make inexpensive purchases when it comes to socially responsible shopping. It really changes the waste that we’re producing by buying less. But it also means you know it’s going to last. It comes down to also changing the way that we think about shopping.



The Good Shopping Guide, an online ethical shopping comparison site, reveals the good, the bad, and the ugly of the world’s companies and brands, assisting you in choosing more eco-friendly, ethical products that support the growth of social responsibility and ethical business as well as a more sustainable, just society. From armaments involvement and corporate corruption to human rights abuse and animal welfare, our research focuses on three general areas: People, Animals and the Environment. In each product sector a detailed breakdown of each company can be found, helping you get a clear picture of what's actually going on behind the brand.

[www.thegoodshoppingguide.com](http://www.thegoodshoppingguide.com)

World Vision ‘No Child For Sale’ campaign <https://nochildforsale.ca>