

# A young person's guide to KITTING OUT YOUR HOME...



[www.newport.gov.uk](http://www.newport.gov.uk)

This guide will give you **advice** and **information** on grants available to help with furnishing your home.



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## **A YOUNG PERSON'S GUIDE TO KITTING OUT YOUR HOME...**

You should be able to get some money to help you buy some of those home essentials.

This guide will tell you what the options are.

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## FUNDING FOR ITEMS...

You may be able to get financial support to buy furniture or other items for your home. Ask your personal advisor about these options and how to apply for them.

### **Leaving care grant**

You can currently receive up to **£1,200** towards the cost of items for your home.

### **Discretionary allowance fund**

When you are really struggling for money, you can apply to this fund. It is designed for emergencies for example your benefits may have stopped or be delayed, or an essential piece of furniture has broken.

### **Housing association support**

If you are renting a house/flat from a housing association they may have a fund you can apply to for essential items or have links with local organisations offering discount items.

### **Junior ISA**

If you have been in care for over 12 months the Government will have set up a Junior ISA for you. You can access this when you turn 18.

### **Capston Care Leavers Trust**

This trust has some money for essential items such as a sofa or washing machine. The trust covers England and Wales so money is limited and on a first come first served basis. You **MUST** have also tried all the other options before applying to the trust.

Find out more at [www.capstonecareleaverstrust.org](http://www.capstonecareleaverstrust.org)

There may be other grants you can apply for.

For more information visit

<https://grants-search.turn2us.org.uk>



## BUYING NEW ITEMS...

When you are buying items for your home you need to know what your rights are as a consumer.

### **Faulty products**

To get a refund you have 30 days to return a faulty product to the shop where you bought it. If you return it after 30 days you need to give them a chance to repair or replace the item. If they can't repair or replace it you can then get a refund. Make sure you keep your receipts.

Similar consumer rights apply to digital items you have bought.

*The items should be:*

- **of satisfactory quality**
- **fit for purpose**
- **as described by the seller**
- **last a reasonable amount of time**

### **Product guarantees**

Some new products may come with a free manufacturer's guarantee.

This guarantees that for a set amount of time they will replace or repair an item if it has a fault. This usually lasts for 12 months after you buy it and you will usually need to register the product.

### **Shopping around**

If you are thinking of buying new items make sure you shop around and get the best price. There are lots of shops that sell furniture, including some of the discount retailers. Many more shops sell home items such as cooking equipment, bedding etc.

**The below sites might be useful to compare prices:**

[www.pricespyspy.co.uk](http://www.pricespyspy.co.uk)

[www.kelkoo.co.uk](http://www.kelkoo.co.uk)

## USEFUL WEBSITES...

[www.which.co.uk/consumerrights](http://www.which.co.uk/consumerrights)

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

[www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk)

## SECOND HAND ITEMS...

You can also get some great furniture from your local reuse/charity shop. Here are some tips if buying second hand.

Your local reuse organisation may offer a discount to individuals on a particular benefit, may have a link with your local housing association to provide some items for less or even free. Ask in the store to see if this applies.

### Electrical safety

If buying a second hand electrical product, you must check:

- **Has it been PAT tested? This means it has been checked for its electrical safety. It will have a sticker similar to the one on the left.**
- **Has it been 'function' tested? This means the organisation has checked it does what it is meant to for example a fridge gets to and stays at the correct temperature.**

Most shops will offer a warranty of some sort with their electrical product.

### Returns

Although the item is second hand, there are still some basic customer rights:

- **the item has to be as described**
- **it has to be in working condition**
- **it has to last a 'reasonable' amount of time**



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## USEFUL WEBSITES...

Customer rights - [www.moneysavingexpert.com](http://www.moneysavingexpert.com)

Free items - [www.freecycle.org](http://www.freecycle.org)

## LOCAL LISTINGS...

[www.charityretail.org.uk](http://www.charityretail.org.uk)

[www.eBay.co.uk](http://www.eBay.co.uk)

Facebook marketplace

[www.freeads.co.uk](http://www.freeads.co.uk)

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

Olio ([www.olioex.com](http://www.olioex.com))

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

[www.wastesavers.co.uk/reuse](http://www.wastesavers.co.uk/reuse)

