DO-IT-YOURSELF
SUSTAINABILITY THROUGH REPAIR

Who isn’t familiar with this: You buy something new, and it’s broken in no time. Repairs can’t be done, and replacement parts aren’t available. To make people aware of how to deal with resources sustainably, the Munich University of Applied Sciences (Hochschule München) has initiated a program in repairs. Manual and digital repair concepts for diverse objects are developed and realized. Our new release, Repair, contains ideas and inspiration for repairing items.

Berlin, May 31, 2018 — The dried-out woven basket is too brittle for firewood. The little coffee grinder is useless without its lid. Two objects for the students in the repair program at the Munich University of Applied Sciences, where old things are made new again. For Silke Langenberg, professor in the Architecture Department and the initiator of the projects, it makes sense in many ways to repair things, particularly in the age of consumerism.

Langenberg began the teaching project four years ago at the Munich University of Applied Sciences. As a professor for renovations, remodeling, historical preservation, and restoration, she originally offered the class in repairs only to architecture students. “The students have to understand that older things—including, of course, buildings—have value. Today architects design buildings that will fall apart within a certain amount of time, not to last for generations. Transferring the notion of repairing things to architecture and construction is my real concern. The students are supposed to design structures and buildings that can be repaired.” In the meanwhile the course has also been opened up to design students.

Silke Langenberg translates manual repair processes to the university and turns them into a method for “learning through research.” She acquired the kind of 3D printer for her seminar that trendy “makers” would have. Many of the objects her students have repaired have not only regained their functions, but were also optically improved. Often, the process of repair has left its mark on the objects—either planned or unplanned—turning them into unique pieces.

Silke Langenberg’s book Repair — Encouragement to Think and Make features many repair projects and comes in a convenient, open-spine design by Xuyen Dam and Tim Tauschek. An introductory conversation between Silke Langenberg and the Director of the Deutsches Museum, Wolfgang M. Heckl, raises awareness of the significance of repairing products and buildings.
REPAIR

Encouragement to Think and Make
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ABOUT HATJE CANTZ

Hatje Cantz is a groundbreaking international publishing company specializing in art, architecture,
and photography. Since 1945 Hatje Cantz has been using its profound expertise and enthusiasm for
craftsmanship to produce and publish books of the highest quality. We currently release around two
hundred new titles annually.

Especially in the digital age, Hatje Cantz regards itself an element linking museums, artists, galleries,
collectors, and art lovers. Conveying knowledge - in terms of both content and visuals - as well as an
enthusiasm for art is always at the heart of our engagement.

In keeping with our ambition to make it possible to experience art beyond the medium of the book,
Hatje Cantz has launched the EDITION GERD HATJE as we continue to expand our portfolio of strictly
limited, signed editions featuring works on paper, photographic works of art, and art objects.

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