

# The Changemakers project By The Mako mermaids- Agora Portals

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Our group has decided to propose a product that will help reduce pollution by a lot therefore helping the environment.

Our group thought of an item that we consume on a daily basis which causes harm to the environment and then we thought of **cotton pads**.

Cotton pads are products that us humans, especially the girls use very often, in big amounts which we then throw in the bin. Cotton pads are also used very often in hospitals to cover injuries or to soak up blood. All of these cotton pads then go as for any sort of material, in the ocean. This is a huge problem because: Cotton pads are unsurprisingly made from cotton which can be organic or non-organic depending on the brand. However, pads are often produced with a synthetic/plastic coating to maintain their structure and stop them from being so fluffy. As well as all of that cotton pads are not always biodegradable or compostable. Some of the cotton pads which are made 100% out of cotton are biodegradable but however some others contain plastic which is not biodegradable. This will lead the cotton element to disintegrate but the plastic will remain in the ocean. In addition to that, depending on what that cotton has been used for or with it will effect more the environment.



To solve all of these problems, me and my group want to introduce to you this new item called a reusable make-up remover cloth!

This object is basically a reusable, more efficient and more environmentally friendly version of our basic cotton pads.

**The materials:** it would be made up of one side of cloth and the other side of a soft material. These would be decorated according to taste or not.

**How would they be made:** We would take a piece of cloth which we would sew to the piece of soft material.

**How they work:** They work just like the normal cotton pads, meaning that you would take you pad and cover it with your make-up removal product which you would apply onto your skin. Once finished using the pad you would not have to throw it away and take another one, you would just need to wash it with simple soap and water.

**What are the changes between the basic cotton pad and our item:**

The changes are that with the old model you would have to use maybe 2-3 per day which would lead to 20-21 per week which is a lot of waste. With the new model you would be able to use only one everyday and it would still be hygienic since the cloths are washable.

How is this product more efficient towards your skin:

- It is very soft which prevents irritations.
- It is rare but it does exist: allergic reactions to cotton. This would not happen.
- The cloth material is a material that has a better ability to scrape off all of the make up or product on the skin
- This may sound stupid but it is true. When a product is more attractive to the human eye it makes us want to use it more. This would lead to people washing their face and removing their make up more frequently which is very important for a healthy skin .
- Commercially this product, if well decorated could be a big time seller!

Along the process of making this project our objectives were to take a polluting product that we use very often and to turn it into something eco-friendly. Even though cotton is not the biggest source containing plastic, it still emits a lot of small plastic particles in the ocean, and with all of the plastic that is floating in the ocean it wouldn't hurt to eliminate them. This would help save our wonderful natural environments! You have to keep in mind that it is the small things that make the difference!

*(Project made by the group of the mako mermaids)*