Make the world a better place in 30 minutes:
How to Clean a Mosaic Trash Can

By Family Friendly Oakland

Mosaic trash cans have been created and sponsored by community groups and volunteers. With your help, we can keep them - and Oakland - clean and beautiful!
Gather Supplies

- Wire brush
- Paint scraper or putty knife
- Dust mask and rubber gloves
- Masking tape
- Newspapers
- Spray paint
- Tile Cleaner
- Cloth rags
- Camera

Tip: These supplies fit nicely into a 5 gallon paint bucket.
Take a before picture
Remember where you’re standing, so you can take an after picture.
Gear Up

Wear dust mask and gloves
Carefully scrape off any stickers, gum or extra paint

- Take off as much gum, stickers and excess paint as you can
- Use razor scraper and/or wire brush
- Do not use wire brush on the tile.
- Brush down any spider webs
- Be careful, it’s sharp!
- Check the doors to make sure there are no stickers that need removing
Clean the trash can

• Start by cleaning the tile mosaic
• Use multi-surface cleaner and cloth rag
• Do not use paper towels on mosaic (there is too much lint)
Clean the trash can

You can try to use stainless steel cleaner for the steel triangle toppers - but we recommend using the dark bronze spray paint for lasting durability.
Tape paper over tile mosaic

• Tape over the tile so the paint doesn’t get on the tile.
• Make a straight seam line.
Tape paper over tile mosaic

• Tape down the sides, covering the grout

*This protects the tile mosaic from the paint and dust.*
Brush down top and door

- Use mask before scraping down tops
- Use wire brush
- Do not scrape or sand if the top is stainless steel (unpainted metal)
Clean and Dry the top
Use: Rust-Oleum Hammered Spray paint: Dark Bronze
Paint the top

• Paint the sides and top
• remove the tape
Spray paint inside rim
Paint the door

- Paint the door and the concrete frame

Note: Check to make sure the neighborhood doesn’t use a standard color for the doors. For example, in Old Oakland, the doors are all painted Navy Blue.
Paint the door

Put newspaper down before painting the bottom to protect the sidewalk
All-done
Take an “After” picture

Stand in the same place you took the “Before” photo.
Work as a team and have fun!
Thank you!!

Together we can keep our trashcans looking good and our city clean!
Acknowledgments

A special thank you to these program partners