



The roof is built with white cellular polycarbonate due to its lightness and thermal insulation | Photo source Imagen Subliminal (Miguel de Guzmán + Rocío Romero)

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THE FIRST MUSEUM MADE ENTIRELY FROM RECYCLED PLASTIC

 ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

The museum is built to raise awareness about the correct use of plastic and will be 100 per cent recycled by the end of the 10 day exhibition

Spotted: [DelaVegaCanolasso](#), a Spanish design company, created a museum in Madrid made entirely of recycled plastic. The project's goal is to get people thinking about plastics and how important it is to use them appropriately.

[The Plastic Museum](#) was completely prefabricated in plastic for two weeks and only took two days to assemble. To finish its cycle, it will be 100 per cent recycled at the end of the 10 days of the exhibition.

Inside, essential tools for health care, communication, construction, food, and sustainable mobility are exhibited to make visitors aware of everything that plastics provide.

Located in the Square contiguous to the Reina Sofia National Museum, the design is a simple volume, white and translucent, easily legible but broken by the methacrylate ribs that reflect the light interior, letting guests guess the world inside and inviting the pedestrians in.

The museum's structural system is comprised of seven structural ribs constructed of 20mm transparent methacrylate "U" shape beams and pillars. White polythene was chosen as the material for the facade. It's a thick substance that makes the facade self-supporting, changes look throughout the day, and [functions as a lamp at night](#).

Because of its lightness and thermal insulation, the roof is made of white cellular polycarbonate. Numeric control was used to cut and number each component so that it could [be built in an IKEA-like way](#).

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Takeaway:

Plastics, which have become hugely valuable to society, are also effective and sustainable recycling solutions. Because plastic takes a long time to break down, it is possible to recycle several times. Plastic packaging can be recycled **up to seven times** before it is better to convert it into energy, with one kilogram of recycled plastic reducing carbon dioxide emissions by two kilograms compared to virgin plastic. However, **91 per cent of plastic isn't recycled**. DelaVegaCanolasso believes that if we want to avoid landfills having 12 billion metric tons of plastic by 2050, it requires the collaboration of all for which education and awareness are key.