



Each kit contains a recycled steel container for cleaning, 70 grams of baking soda which acts as a natural cleaning agent, and a reusable Loop Pad. | Photo source [Loop Can](#)

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STUDENT DESIGNS CONCEPT FOR REUSABLE SANITARY PAD AND CLEANING DEVICE



The kit has been designed for women living in refugee camps to more easily wash their sanitary pads while reducing plastic waste

Spotted: The UK-based product design student Cheuk Laam Wong has created the concept for Loop Can, a portable kit to wash menstruation pads designed for women in refugee camps while also providing an alternative to single-use plastic sanitary pads.

Each kit contains a recycled steel container for cleaning, 70 grams of baking soda which acts as a natural cleaning agent, and a reusable Loop Pad. All that is needed after that is 500 millilitres of water. The container consists of a cylindrical body with a screw-top lid and a spinning mechanism.

Once the pad has been inserted inside the container, all that is required is to screw on the cap and spin the device with their fingers. After spinning, users need to wait at least 30 minutes for the blood to dissolve. Then the pad is rinsed three times.

After interviewing NGOs in Greece, [Cheuk told Dezeen that she saw](#) the need for cheaper, longer-term solutions to non-reusable plastic pads. Moreover, whilst other reusable pads are a better alternative, [she told Dezeen](#) that shared washing machines in refugee camps aren't always available. "Plastic pads can't work as they rely on NGOs' constant donation and lack culturally sensitive disposable methods."

Loop Pads take approximately half a day to dry if hung up indoors, and last up to five years, [Cheuk said](#). Moreover, each Loop Pad comes in three separable parts: a bamboo terry base, a bamboo fleece wing and the pad itself which is made from a polyester-laminated material.

Cheuk estimates the expected total cost for the entire kit, which is still in its first stages of conception, will amount to approximately €3.53, including the washing parts and pads.

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Takeaway:

For many women and young girls around the world, menstruation products are still extremely difficult to access and viewed as a luxury. This is due to the high costs and value-added tax (VAT) imposed. Despite periods being a key sign of women's health and fertility, many countries still do not accept menstrual products as a daily necessity. [According to the Borgen Project](#), at least 500 million women around the world experience period poverty, every month. In India, [12 per cent of menstruators cannot afford](#) period products while in Kenya, this statistic increases to a shocking [65 per cent](#).