

# Leaf Dinnerware to Replace Plastic and Styrofoam

Source: [thehomestead.guru](http://thehomestead.guru)

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A University in Thailand has spent the past year developing a new type of waterproof bowl made of leaves. The women behind this leaf dinnerware felt called to design a replacement for Styrofoam when they saw large amounts of trash at a Temple in their country.

The bowls they make are certainly beautiful, and woven tightly enough that they will not leak. The women used starch to create a glossy look to the dining ware, and once used, these dishes will decompose naturally.

Their [research indicates](#) that the leaves from Kwao (bastard teak), Sak (teak) and Sai (banyan) trees worked the best for these plates and bowls.

While the women have applied for a patent, the idea of leaf-based dining ware is not new. In fact, this method has been used for generations in [India and Nepal](#).

This product may not be new to the indigenous people of India and Nepal, but it is certainly a fresh idea for those of us in the West who are accustomed to massive amounts of trash-waste coming with our convenience foods.

It is about time that through innovation and tradition we find a way to replace our heavy dependence on Styrofoam and plastic for both fast food and convenience food. I wonder if they could make cups that could withstand a drink beyond a meal?

If there is to be food trash and careless litter, wouldn't you rather it look like this?

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