the Recyclero

HOW IT WORKS

- place waste on the tray

- press the button on the right side to begin the sorting process

- the machine will sort items using novel echolocation and infrared properties

- once an item's material is identified, the Recyclero will place it into the correct compartment and the translucent screen in front will light up

- the user doesn't need to watch items be sorted, but can intervene by pressing the lid and moving objects to the correct container

- once a container is full the light front light will blink, indicating that the user should take out the waste

Automatically sorts waste into...
- recyclables
- compost
- landfill
All too often, the conversation surrounding environmental awareness is strong, but our actions tend to focus on the most convenient option, which is rarely environmentally friendly. Sorting waste in particular, is a concept that seems simple and has a grand effect; by sorting our waste into recyclables, compost, and landfill, we can better manage humanity’s waste production and decrease our environmental impact.

With the recyclero, I envision a world where environmental consciousness becomes a concept of the subconscious. No longer do individuals need to worry about actively sorting their waste. The recyclero transforms sorting into the standard; with this device, users no longer need to consciously concern themselves with sorting waste. Instead, they can continue on the visceral level of behavior, throwing their waste into a general compartment and allowing the machine to complete the activity.

There is simplicity in the design of the recyclero: each object has an intended purpose. Whether it be the lights which act as signifiers or the titanium material for durability, each aspect of the formal design was carefully planned. However, there is still an aesthetic dimension to the design. There is beauty in effective and efficient machines, that are both robust and elegant. Like a child fascinated by a new toy, we hope that individuals will also be fascinated with the inner-workings of the recyclero. For some, the process of watching the machine work could even become a game; predicting when it will be accurate and when the user might need to intervene (although this is hopefully never).

The machine fulfills the eudaemonic loop; not only is it a design to make an individual’s life better, but also a design that is meant to improve humanity as a whole. By making recycling a visceral action, our design strives to make the earth a better place for all of the population, as well as our future.
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