HOW TO QUALITY CHECK SHOES AT HOME!

**Quality = Dignity**

At Cradles to Crayons, our bedrock value is that Quality = Dignity. We strive to provide children living in low-income or homeless situations with the highest quality everyday items. You can help us provide children with shoes for the classroom and the playground by quality checking them at home!

Due to the constraints of our units, we kindly ask that you only donate items using bags that have been securely tied shut, or in small boxes that have been taped closed. Please do not leave donations outside of the unit.

**How Do You Quality Check Shoes?**

1. **Inspect all of the shoes to make sure there aren’t any rips or stains.**
   - Be sure to check that the shoes have laces and make a complete pair.
   - Collect the essential everyday shoes: sneakers, sandals and boots.
   - For examples of what doesn’t meet our quality standards, see the box below.
2. **If the shoes are used,** wipe it down with non-toxic cleaning solution or sanitary wipes scrubbing away all visible marks.
3. **If a pair of shoes is of good quality,** bind them with a rubber band and bring them to a drop-off location found here: https://www.cradlestocrayons.org/chicago/take-action/donate-goods/find-local-drop-off/
4. **If a pair of shoes do not meet our quality standards,** please visit www.cradlestocrayons.org/chicago/at-home for a list of places to donate.

**Some examples of what doesn’t meet our quality standards:**

- Shoes that are ripped, have holes in the soles, or are stained
- Shoes that are missing shoelaces
- Shoes that do not make a complete pair
- Shoes that are not everyday shoes
  - Ex. Flats, high heels, slippers, dress shoes, etc.
- Shoes that are sport shoes
  - Ex. Baseball/soccer cleats, rollerblades, etc.
- Shoes that are larger than Adult Size 10