

# SACKS: Designer shopping bags evoke global themes



catwalkqueen.tv

"Pirates of the Caribbean" actress Keira Knightley was one of the lucky ones who was able to find an Anya Hindmarch bag before it sold out.

## FROM 1

Designer Anya Hindmarch's cotton "I'm not a Plastic Bag" tote is undoubtedly the "it" bag on the market now. The bag is sold out on Hindmarch's Web site, but those determined to get their hands on one have reportedly paid 10 times its original price of \$15 on eBay.

The eye-popping Basura bag is a colorful collage of recycled chip packages picked from the streets of Honduras. Gecko Traders' totes are made in Cambodia from recycled rice and feed bags. The patchwork designs are individually handcrafted by underprivileged women who use the profits from the bags to get back on their feet.

The BYOB (bring-your-own-bag) trend is not only a personal choice.

In March, San Francisco became the first major U.S. city to implement a ban on the use of

nonbiodegradable plastic bags in supermarkets.

Many stores in Europe have begun offering rewards and discounts for those who bring their own bag. Others go as far as to charge customers the for paper and plastic bags they use.

While Roanoke doesn't prohibit plastic bag use, some local stores are finding ways to encourage customers to be eco-friendly. All Kroger stores, for instance, have plastic bag-recycling bins.

Another retailer has even taken the European approach.

"We give every person who brings their own bag a piece of honey sesame candy," said Sylvia Rosenfeld, manager of Annie Kay's Main Street Market in Radford. "We want to make it easier to put 'reduce, reuse and recycle' into practice for the environment, for the planet. It's actually been met with some excitement."



reusablebags.com

The b. happybags cotton totes will cost \$19.95 when they become available online later this month. Their roomy design holds about the same volume as a standard paper grocery bag.