Modern prosthetic legs are typically made up of various components. Every prosthetic leg is
different however the components are universal and often the same few tools can be used to
take them apart. Whilst most of these components can be re-serviced to build a new prosthetic
leg for someone, some part cannot. See below the guide of what can be recycled.

ABOVE KNEE SUSPENSION

Separate the above knee suspension from the socket before starting the dismantling procedure.
This will make it easier to dismantle the socket part and it will be possible to keep the
suspension together without breaking it. Usually it can be pulled off but in some cases it might
be glued or taped on.

ABOVE KNEE LEATHER SUSPENSION
Separate the above knee leather suspension from the prosthetic leg before starting the dismantling procedure, it will be easier to dismantle the socket part and it will be possible to keep the suspension together without breaking it. These may be riveted or screwed in so just unscrew them if possible. If it's riveted these can be chiseled or grinded off so the whole bracket can be removed.

BRACKETS & HINGES

Brackets and hinges can sometimes be riveted in. If so, these can be chiseled or ground off. It's also common for them to be moulded into the socket and if this is the case, secure the leg and cut around the fitting with a jigsaw.

COSMETIC COVER

Slip the cosmetic cover off from the prosthetic leg before starting the dismantling procedure. You can do this by sliding it along the leg and removing it completely by pulling it over the foot. You might need to use scissors or a sharp knife to cut it off. This item should be discarded of as it can not be recycled.
STUMP SOCKS

Slip the stump sock off from the prosthetic leg before starting the dismantling procedure.

SILICON LINER

Pull the silicon liner out from inside the prosthetic leg. In some cases these have been glued or taped in and providing they are not damaged or perished they can be recycled. If it doesn't pull out easily there might be a pin at the bottom which is holding into the stump.
SILICON LINER WITH PIN

Press the pin release button at the bottom of the stump and pull the silicon liner out from the socket.

SOCKET ADAPTOR (WITHOUT SOCKET)

The way socket adapters are attached to the socket vary depending on the manufacturer and model. If the adapter has not been moulded into the socket it can be removed by either using an Allen key or spanner set.

Sometimes a socket set with an extender is needed to undo one bolt that is at the bottom of the inside of the socket.

It is preferable to remove the socket adaptor from the socket if it is possible.
SOCKET ADAPTOR (WITH 3 INCHES OF SOCKET)

Sometimes the socket adaptor can be glued or moulded into the socket. In this case there is no need to separate the socket from its adaptor. The socket can be cut using a hand or reciprocating saw. Try to make a clean cut 7 cm above the adapter so it will be easier to reconstruct the new socket to other components.

KNEES

To separate the knee from the socket adaptor, loosen the set screws by turning the allen key anticlockwise. It’s not necessary to pull the set screws completely out. If there’s a release cable connected to the knee you can separate it from the socket, so as to keep it together with the knee. Keep the knee together as one functioning unit, there no need to diassemble a knee into parts.
To separate the pylon from the knee, loosen the set screws by turning the allen key anticlockwise. Note, sometimes connectors cannot be removed from pylons as they are fused together as one unit.

To separate the connector from a pylon or other components, loosen the set screws by turning the allen key anticlockwise. It’s not necessary to pull the set screws completely out and it’s better to keep them together with the rest of the connector.
To separate the foot from the connector, loosen the set screws by turning the allen key anticlockwise.

Components that we can not recycle

THE OUTER LEG FOAM

The foam either hard or soft which is used to cover the components. Please remove as safely as possible with a knife or scissors.
INNER SOCKET CUSHIONING

Inside the socket it is common to have a layer of moulded foam which gives extra padding between the stump and the socket. It can usually be pulled out or use a screwdriver for leverage.

TOP OF THE SOCKET

If the socket has been removed from the socket adapter (preferred) you should have a complete socket with a hole in the bottom, this can be discarded. If the socket adapter is moulded into the socket on the top of the socket it needs to be sawn off either using a hand saw or band saw 3 inches above the adapter. This top section of the socket can be discarded as well.
STUMP SOCKS WITH HOLES

These are what gives the amputee extra cushioning between their stump and the socket. If they look damaged at all please discard. If they are in good condition but could do with a wash it might be worth having a dirty socks bin and when you have enough, putting them in a high temperature washing machine cycle. Once clean, they will be good to reuse.

BROKEN OR DAMAGED PARTS

Please discard components that are clearly overworn or damaged.