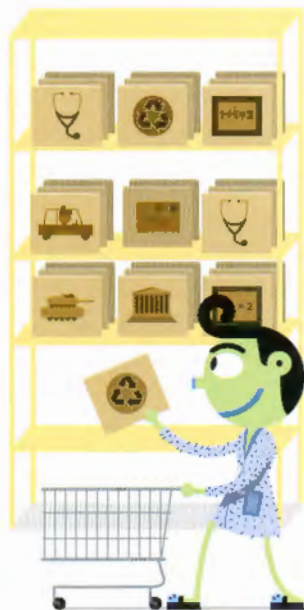


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How to Build Your Own Country

Suppose you stumble across a chunk of land that no one owns. You could take it over and declare it a brand-new country. Your own personal country! The Kingdom of Jason! The Federal Republic of Katie! Even if it were only the size of a bathmat, it would be yours, all yours!

If you think that's highly unlikely, you're right. Unlikely, but not impossible. While 99.999999 percent of the planet is owned by one country or another, odd bits and pieces aren't, such as the abandoned World War II sea fortress that Roy Bates and his family took over in 1967 and declared the Principality of Sealand. A lot of people thought the island platform was owned by Britain, but the courts ruled it was in international waters and thus up for grabs. Today Sealand has its own flag, motto, national anthem and even postage stamps and coins. If Prince Roy of Sealand (as he is now called) can do it, so can you.

How exactly do you go about building a country from scratch? It's as easy as 1, 2, 3.

1

Stake out your identity ... with a flag, money and a national anthem. In other words, put your country's brand name on the map.



2

Run the country ... with a government, constitution, laws and an economy. Without these, your country will soon be one big unruly dilapidated mess.

3

Meet the neighbors ... and join other nations on the big issues that face the whole world, such as poverty and global warming and security and international aid and ...

