

GARAGE SALES

Selling Big-Ticket Items

Practical Ways to Move Furniture and Appliances Safely

A garage sale can clear a garage fast, but big-ticket items often need a little more planning. Sofas, dining sets and major appliances do not fit on a folding table, and buyers usually want more information before they commit. With a few safety-minded steps, sellers can keep the process smooth and neighborly.

In most communities, large items sell best when they are easy to see, easy to measure and easy to load. That means thinking beyond price tags and focusing on access, condition and clear details. It also means setting boundaries that protect your home while still being welcoming.

BIG ITEMS, CLEAR DETAILS

Furniture and appliances attract shoppers who compare notes quickly. A simple sign that lists the basics helps: approximate dimensions for a couch, the size of a refrigerator or washer, or whether a table includes leaves. For appliances, the model number and serial number are usually printed on a label inside the door or on the back, and that information lets buyers look up specs and parts.

Condition notes matter, too.



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If a dresser drawer sticks or a recliner handle is loose, say so up front. Buyers appreciate straightforward descriptions, and it can prevent a return visit that turns awkward.

SET UP FOR ACCESS

The best display is one that keeps traffic out of your house. When possible, stage

large pieces in the garage, driveway or carport where they can be inspected without strangers walking through bedrooms or hallways. If an item must stay inside, consider limiting entry to one adult at a time and keeping doors to other rooms closed.

Think about the path to the street. Clear hoses, tools and kids' bikes so no one trips

while measuring or lifting. If you are selling a heavy appliance, having it unplugged and accessible helps buyers check the interior, and it also shows you are ready for a quick pickup.

SAFE PAYMENTS AND PICKUPS

For higher prices, a written receipt can help both sides

remember what was agreed to. Include the date, item description and amount paid, and note that the sale is final. Many sellers also find it easier to handle large pickups by appointment, especially for buyers returning with a truck.

When it is time to load, protect your own back first. Buyers should bring their own help, straps and a vehicle that fits the purchase. If you assist, do it in a way that keeps you in control of your space, and do not feel pressured to move anything you cannot lift safely.

PRICING AND NEGOTIATION

Big-ticket items often sell when the price leaves room for friendly negotiating. Researching typical used prices for similar items can keep expectations realistic, especially for mattresses, older appliances or heavily worn furniture. If you are willing to hold an item, be clear about how long you will do so and whether a deposit is required.

A well-run sale keeps the focus on the items, not the stress. With clear information, a safe setup and a plan for payment and pickup, sellers can move large pieces from home with confidence.

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TIPS AND TRICKS

Measure Before You Tag

Write down width, depth and height for big items and tape the numbers to the piece so shoppers can decide quickly.

AD SPACE