GARAGE SALES

How to Turn Leftovers Into Cash

Don't Toss What Doesn't Sell — Here's How to Resell, Donate or Upcycle

real ven the best-planned garage sale leaves a few items behind. But just because something didn't sell in your driveway doesn't mean it's worthless. With a little effort, you can give your left-overs a second chance to earn extra money — or serve a greater purpose.

RE-MARKET THROUGH LOCAL CHANNELS

Just because something didn't sell during your garage sale doesn't mean it won't sell at all. Try listing standout items in your local newspaper's classifieds or community bulletin pages. These trusted sources still reach serious buyers looking for furniture, tools, collectibles and more.

You can also ask if your newspaper offers bundled online-and-print listings for added exposure. Many buyers rely on these community-driven sources to find follow-up deals after big sale weekends.

If you'd still like to explore other resale options, check with local consignment shops or resale boutiques that support neighborhood circulation.

USE CONSIGNMENT OR RESALE STORES

Gently used clothing, shoes,



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baby items and accessories may be accepted at consignment shops or resale boutiques. Some stores pay cash upfront, while others offer a split once your item sells.

Call ahead to see what they're currently accepting, or check their guidelines online. Even a small batch of higher-quality items can result in a payout that makes the trip worthwhile.

BUNDLE ITEMS FOR A QUICK SALE

If you have a collection of similar leftovers — like books, holiday decorations, tools or kitchenware — consider bundling them into a single lot. List them as "Garage Sale Leftovers:

Take All for \$20" to attract bargain hunters or resellers looking for bulk deals.

This strategy helps you clear space quickly and still puts some money back in your pocket.

DONATE LOCALLY WITH A PURPOSE

If making more money isn't

a priority, donating is a fast and meaningful option. Many community organizations welcome gently used goods, especially clothing, bedding, toys and household items.

Look for nonprofits, shelters, churches or thrift stores that support causes you believe in. Some groups will even pick up items from your home, making the process simple and convenient.

Be sure to check donation policies before loading up your car, and avoid donating anything broken, stained or unsafe to use.

GET CREATIVE WITH REPURPOSING

Some unsold items might find new life with a little imagination. Turn mismatched picture frames into a wall collage, use leftover fabric for craft projects or turn old furniture into DIY projects. If you're handy, consider selling refurbished items later or giving them as thoughtful gifts.

With a little follow-up, your unsold items don't have to go to waste. Whether you resell, repurpose or donate, there's always a way to keep useful things out of the landfill — and maybe make a few more dollars in the process.

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SELLER'S TIP

List Leftovers Online the Same Day

Use the momentum of your sale to snap photos and post unsold items on resale apps or social media while they're still fresh in your mind.

AD SPACE