

GARAGE SALES

Your Next Garage Sale

What to Save and Write Down Before Planning Your Next Garage Sale

A good garage sale often helps clear space, puts useful items back into circulation and gives neighbors a reason to stop and talk. When the day ends, many sellers focus on what is left to pack up, but a little review can make the next sale easier and smoother.

Garage sales have long been part of American neighborhood life. They are practical, low-cost events, and they reward people who stay organized from one season to the next.

WHAT WORKED

One of the best habits after a sale is writing down what happened while it is still fresh. A few simple notes, such as the starting time, weather, busiest hours and which tables drew the most attention, can help shape the next event.

It also helps to note which items sold quickly and which did not. Children's clothes, kitchen goods, books, tools and holiday decorations may move differently depending on the neighborhood, the season and the condition of the items.

Price points are worth tracking too. If many shoppers



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bought items priced at \$1, \$5 or \$10, that information can save time later when sorting and tagging new merchandise.

SAVE THE BASICS

After cleanup, many sellers find they still have useful supplies on hand. Price stickers, masking tape, poster board,

markers, change boxes, folding tables and hanging racks can all be stored together for the next sale.

Keeping these materials in one clearly marked bin or shelf can reduce stress months later. The same goes for tablecloths, shopping bags and extension cords if they

were used during the sale.

Signs deserve attention as well. If local rules allow reusable signs, storing them flat and dry can save money and preparation time before the next event.

GATHER YEAR-ROUND

Planning ahead does not

mean turning the house into a storage room. It means choosing one spot, such as a closet corner, garage shelf or labeled tote, for items that are clean, usable and no longer needed.

As the year goes on, families often find extra dishes, small appliances, toys, picture frames or home decor they are ready to part with. Setting those items aside little by little can make the next sale feel less rushed.

Condition matters. Washing clothing, testing small electronics and grouping similar items ahead of time can make setup easier and help shoppers browse without confusion.

Another useful step is deciding what to do with leftovers before the next sale even begins.

Some sellers plan to donate unsold goods to a local charity, pass them to relatives or save selected items for a communitywide sale later in the year.

Looking back after a garage sale is a simple way to prepare for the next one. A few notes, a small stash of saved supplies and a steady habit of setting aside usable items can turn a one-day event into an easier annual tradition.

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SELLER'S TIP

Reuse Supplies

Keep a small envelope in your supply bin for leftover price stickers, notes and receipts so everything is ready when sale season comes back around.

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