

GARAGE SALES

Garage Sale Leftovers

Tips For Figuring Out What to Do With Items That Don't Sell

After the excitement of a garage sale winds down, you might find yourself with a pile of unsold items. Instead of letting them become clutter again, consider these creative options for giving those leftovers a second life.

DONATE TO LOCAL CHARITIES

One of the simplest and most rewarding ways to deal with unsold items is by donating them to local charities. Organizations like Goodwill, The Salvation Army and local shelters often accept gently used clothing, furniture and household goods. Some charities even offer pick-up services for larger donations, making the process hassle-free.

Before donating, check the organization's guidelines for accepted items. This ensures your contributions go to good use. Donating is a great way to declutter responsibly while helping others in need.

SELL ONLINE OR HOLD A CLEARANCE SALE

For valuable or lightly used items, selling online can be an excellent option. Platforms like Facebook Marketplace,



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Craigslist and eBay allow you to reach a wider audience, potentially earning more than you would at a garage sale. Take clear, well-lit photos and write detailed descriptions to attract buyers. Price items competitively, and be prepared to negotiate.

If you have enough leftovers, consider hosting a second “clearance” garage sale. Offer steeper discounts to clear out inventory quickly. This approach works especial-

ly well if you promote the sale to your original buyers, letting them know they can score even better deals.

UPCYCLE, REPURPOSE OR RECYCLE

Get creative with unsold items by turning them into DIY projects.

Furniture can be sanded and painted for a fresh look, while old jars or frames can become unique home decor. Upcycling not only reduces

waste but also gives your items a new purpose.

For items that can't be reused, look into local recycling options. Electronics, appliances and textiles often have specific programs for proper disposal. Check with your city or county to find drop-off sites or scheduled collection days.

AVOID THE CLUTTER TRAP

The key to handling left-

overs is acting quickly.

Leaving unsold items in a corner to “deal with later” risks turning them into clutter again.

By donating, selling or recycling shortly after the sale, you maintain the benefits of a decluttered space.

With a little effort, garage sale leftovers can find new homes or new purposes, keeping your home organized and your sale experience rewarding.

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SELLER'S TIP

Plan Ahead for Leftovers

Before your sale begins, decide what to do with unsold items. Having a donation box or a plan for online sales saves time and effort post-sale.

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