

# GARAGE SALES

## The Art of Decluttering

### The Benefits of Turning Household Clutter Into Open Space

A garage sale can do more than clear out a driveway for a weekend. It can help families sort through what they use, what they store and what is ready for a new owner.

That process often starts with a simple question: Does this item still fit daily life? Clothes that no longer fit, duplicate kitchen tools, old toys and extra decor can take up closets, shelves and garages long after their useful time in one home has passed.

#### ROOM TO BREATHE

Decluttering has become a familiar goal in many households because crowded spaces can make routine tasks harder. When surfaces fill up and storage areas overflow, it becomes more difficult to find what is needed, keep rooms clean and use space well.

A garage sale gives that effort a deadline and a purpose. Instead of moving unwanted items from one corner to another, sellers can gather them, price them and prepare them for someone else who may need them.



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#### MAKING DECISIONS

One practical benefit of a garage sale is that it encourages clear choices. Sellers often sort items into categories such as keep, sell and donate, which can make a large project feel more manageable.

Experts in home organization often recommend working one room at a time. That approach can help homeowners avoid feeling overwhelmed and it can reveal patterns, such as how many unused lin-

ens, books or small appliances have built up over time.

Garage sales also give value to everyday goods that still have life left in them. A lamp from a spare bedroom, a stack of children's books or a set of dishes from a cabinet may no longer serve one household but can still be useful in another.

#### A FRESH START

The result is often more visible space and easier upkeep at home. Closets may close more easily, garage shelves

may hold only what is needed and family rooms may feel less crowded.

That extra room can support better organization. Storage bins can be labeled, seasonal items can be grouped together and commonly used belongings can be placed where they are easiest to reach.

For many households, the real benefit is not only financial. A successful sale can create a sense of progress, especially after months or years of putting off the task of clearing

things out.

Garage sales also reflect a practical American habit of reuse. One family's extra chairs, garden tools or sports gear can become a useful find for a neighbor, helping goods stay in use instead of sitting idle.

In that way, a garage sale can mark the start of a more organized home. By making careful decisions about what stays and what goes, sellers can reduce clutter, free up living space and give everyday items a second life.

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#### TIPS AND TRICKS

##### Start With One Closet

Pick one small area first and pull out everything inside. It is easier to decide what to sell when you can see how much space the items actually take up.

## AD SPACE