

GARAGE SALES

Resources For Your Garage Sale

Planning to hold a garage sale? There are many resources available both online and in your community that can help you do everything from planning to pricing to signage.

When it's time to start planning your sale, there are many tasks to be done. Keep track of them all with a free printable checklist. RealSimple.com offers a great checklist that helps you know when to do which task, starting from two weeks before your sale (did you know you might need a permit?) to donating items and removing signs when the sale is over. See the list at <https://www.realsimple.com/home-organizing/garage-sale-checklist>.

TheSpruce.com offers a more detailed checklist that will get you planning as much as six weeks before your sale and includes long-term planning tips such as collecting plastic shopping bags for your sale and stopping by some local sales to gauge pricing in your area. See the list at <https://www.thespruce.com/yard-sale-checklist-1313869>.



LOCAL RESOURCES

If your community requires permits for garage sales or has other restrictions or rules about garage sales, it's important to know that information before you start planning the other details of your sale. Call your city or county offices to ask about the rules, or visit their websites to read the applicable guidelines. Some areas have no rules

about garage sales, which some have very specific rules that can cost sellers hundreds of dollars in fines if they aren't followed. For example, the city of Chicago charges \$50 to \$500 for infractions of its strict garage sale rules that regulate time, duration and signage. (Read more at <https://bit.ly/2BurZkq>.) Know the rules before you get started on your sale.

FREE SUPPLIES

If you're holding a moving sale, a local real estate agent might help you get out the word about your sale. Many agents offer free garage sale kits that include signs (bearing their names, logos and contact info, of course) and price tags. Real estate agents offer a helping hand for your sale because they are interested in getting to know

more about your real estate needs. Are you selling? If you rent, is the owner a potential client for their real estate business? The bottom line for you is free help marketing your sale.

FREE DOWNLOADS

From printable signs to an Excel spreadsheet to track multi-family sales to a bill of sale for a vehicle, Microsoft Office has you covered with free downloadable garage sale resources. KristensGuide.com offers printable price stickers in various denominations, as well as directional signs and labels for each garage sale "department." Download them at http://www.kristensguide.com/Printables/yard_sale.asp

RACKS AND TABLES

Keep an eye out for going-out-of-business sales in your area. Retailers often dump commercial-grade fixtures and supplies at rock-bottom prices just before they close their doors. You could score great deals on items to help organize your sale, such as clothing racks, sizing rack tags, shelving, mannequins, tables, pegboards and more, as well as supplies such as, pricing guns, price tags/stickers and cash boxes. These can be particularly good investments if you plan to hold large sales on a regular basis.

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