

GARAGE SALES

Moving 101

Packing up to move house is a great time to hold a garage sale.

Not only will you generate extra pocket money for your move, you'll also help clear out some items that you don't want to take with you.

MAKE A PLAN

Moving is, no doubt, stressful. But it can be less stressful if you have a plan and a timeline. Sit down with your family and make a plan together so that everyone feels involved and in control, even children. For them, especially, this can be a troublesome time and giving them some responsibility can help them with the process.

While making your plan, make sure to set deadlines that are reasonable and also pay attention to your budget. Consider how you plan to travel to your new home and start a folder or binder to keep track of things such as receipts, maps, ideas, contracts and more.

SORT YOUR STUFF

This is where your garage sale can come in handy. Make sure to set a date before you have to have everything packed but after you have ample time to sort things. Consider whether your new home is smaller or



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larger. Also look at things such as climate. You may not need parkas in Florida or kids' toys if you're empty nesters. Make room to put things to sell, things to donate and start throwing trash out.

START PACKING

As you decide what to keep, start packing things you aren't going to need. Label each box with the room it goes to and stack it out of the way. For your garage sale items, start making an inventory and researching pricing. A general rule is that you shouldn't charge more

than 10% of retail price, but do some research and find local price ranges for the goods you plan to sell.

If you're donating items, call around to see if shops will pick up your items. Set that pick-up date for after your garage sale so that they can also pick up

your garage sale leftovers.

HOLD YOUR SALE

In addition to your family members, ask friends to come by and help. The more eyes and ears you have, the more you can sell. Make sure you follow any local and municipal rules for garage sales, including getting a permit, if required. Pack up your leftovers for the donation pick up and trash any items they won't collect.

START UPDATING YOUR ADDRESSES

Ahead of your move, start updating addresses for banks, insurance, magazines and other subscriptions, your pharmacy, doctor's office and other services you use. Make arrangements to transfer your utilities and start making plans to deep clean your old home before leaving and arrange to transfer or stop services such as landscaping and pest control.

MOVING DAY

Make sure you have help set up at the start and end of your move. Make arrangements for children and pets and review your moving company's contract to make sure you know any timelines, requirements for parking and equipment, and charges.

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BUYER'S TIP

Negotiate a Good Deal

People who are moving want to get rid of things so they don't have to pay to move or store them. See if you can make deals by negotiating for bundles or volume buying.

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