

# GARAGE SALES

## Buying Vintage Fashions

Vintage and retro clothing has made a big comeback. Some of those outfits languishing in your closet may fetch big bucks at a thrift or garage sale. Or, maybe, you're on the hunt for your own pieces to liven up your wardrobe.

Thrift shops and garage sales are great ways to score beautiful outfits for a great price. Here are some tips for either sellers or buyers.

### SELLERS

The best ways to sell your vintage clothing is to present it well. Make sure your clothing is clean and in good repair. Know the brands you have and the sizes you have. Bear in mind that sizes have changed over the years, so a size 12 in 1974 may not be the same as a size 12 today. Instead, consider taking measurements of the waist, bust, arms and legs so your buyers can have a better idea of the fit.

If holding a sale isn't a good idea in your area, consider offering your items to a con-



© ADOBE STOCK

signment shop. These specialty shops offer used items for sale on your behalf and take a cut of the sales price for themselves. Be aware that each shop has its own terms and contracts and read everything carefully before you sign it.

Whether you're selling on

your own or through consignment, make sure your clothing and accessories are in good order with no stains, rips or holes. See that it has all the buttons and that zippers and other fasteners work smoothly. Some jewelry or other items may have acquired a patina that's valu-

able. Be careful not to remove that.

Present your goods to buyers in good lighting and in an attractive way. When you advertise your sale, take good quality pictures to entice your buyers. If you have enough pieces, put together outfits to draw more shoppers in.

### BUYERS

Buyers, you should keep the same thing about measurements in mind. Today's sizes aren't the same as those of previous years. Also, sizes can vary sizes widely by brand. If you can, take your own measurements and compare them to similar sizes from around the same time. If you're still in doubt, ask if the seller will allow you to try the items on before purchasing.

Shopping in a consignment store will make this easier. Bear in mind that these shops may contain more luxury brands, as they are more profitable to sell. So if you're looking for pricey vintage handbags or jewelry, try these stores first.

When you're shopping for vintage clothing and accessories, you're unlikely to find a specific item. Instead, go in with an idea of what kinds of pieces you're looking for instead and keep an open mind. You never know what you'll find.

### GETTING YOUR NEW CLOTHES HOME

Once you've got your items home, wash them carefully according to the directions on the label. Bear in mind that you may have to treat these pieces more delicately than you would your newer clothes, owing to their age and wear.

# GARAGE SALES



© ADOBE STOCK

## Buying Vintage Fashions

Vintage and retro clothing has made a big comeback. Some of those outfits languishing in your closet may fetch big bucks at a thrift or garage sale. Or, maybe, you're on the hunt for your own pieces to liven up your wardrobe.

Thrift shops and garage sales are great ways to score beautiful outfits for a great price. Here are great tips for either sellers or buyers.

### SELLERS

The best ways to sell your vintage clothing is to present it well. Make sure your clothing is clean and in good repair. Know the brands you have and the sizes you have. Bear in mind that sizes have

changed over the years, so a size 12 in 1974 may not be the same as a size 12 today. Instead, consider taking measurements of the waist, bust, arms and legs so your buyers can have a better idea of the fit.

If holding a sale isn't a good idea in your area, consider offering your items to a consignment shop. These specialty shops offer used items for sale on your behalf and take a

cut of the sales price for themselves. Be aware that each shop has its own terms and contracts and read everything carefully before you sign it.

Whether you're selling on your own or through consignment, make sure your clothing and accessories are in good order with no stains, rips or holes. See that it has all the buttons and that zippers and other fasteners work smoothly. Some jewelry or other items may have acquired a patina that's valuable. Be careful not to remove that.

Present your goods to buyers in good lighting and in an attractive way. When you advertise your sale, take good quality pictures to entice your

buyers. If you have enough pieces, put together outfits to draw more shoppers in.

### BUYERS

Buyers, you should keep the same thing about measurements in mind. Today's sizes aren't the same as those of previous years. Also, sizes can vary sizes widely by brand. If you can, take your own measurements and compare them to similar sizes from around the same time. If you're still in doubt, ask if the seller will allow you to try the items on before purchasing.

Shopping in a consignment store will make this easier. Bear in mind that these shops may contain more luxury brands, as they are more profitable to sell. So if you're look-

ing for pricey vintage handbags or jewelry, try these stores first.

When you're shopping for vintage clothing and accessories, you're unlikely to find a specific item. Instead, go in with an idea of what kinds of pieces you're looking for instead and keep an open mind. You never know what you'll find.

### GETTING YOUR NEW CLOTHES HOME

Once you've got your items home, wash them carefully according to the directions on the label. Bear in mind that you may have to treat these pieces more delicately than you would your newer clothes, owing to their age and wear.

### BUYER'S TIP

#### Buy What You Want to Wear

You'll save money if you seek out vintage clothing you want to wear rather than collector's pieces. Shop with a general idea and you'll have more success finding that perfect piece to fill in a hole in your wardrobe.

## AD SPACE