

GARAGE SALES

What to Donate, What to Toss

Once your sale is over and your cash is counted, you may have some things left over. You might think you can just pack it all up and cart it to the nearest thrift store, but that's not always the best thing to do. Here's a list of what you should and shouldn't donate to the secondhand store.

DONATE AWAY

- Clothing in good condition.
- Jewelry.
- Books, records, CDs, video tapes and DVDs.
- Games, toys and sports equipment.
- Housewares that are clean and in good working order.
- Hand tools and power tools.
- Linens and blankets that are clean and in good shape.
- Furniture.
- Flat-screen TVs.
- Gently used bicycles.
- Small appliances.
- Exercise equipment.
- Computers, printers and



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accessories.

- Lawn furniture.

SEND IT TO THE TRASH

- Cribs, car seats and any expired baby gear.
- Walkers and other durable medical equipment.
- CRT monitors and televisions.
- Shoes that are scuffed or smell.

• Anything with pet hair on it, like furniture and rugs.

- Anything missing pieces or accessories.
 - Recalled items.
 - Worn socks or undergarments.
 - Building materials.
 - Mattresses, box springs and sleeper sofas.
 - Breast pumps.
- Remember that some items

may need special disposal. These include paint; household chemicals; weapons, like firearms and knives, and ammunition; prescriptions; some large appliances and other bulky items; and fireworks.

BEFORE DONATING

Before donating anything, Goodwill Industries suggests

you do the following:

- Inspect each item for rips, tears or breakage.
- Fix broken buttons or zippers.
- Launder clothing and clean other items.
- Clean and dry kitchen items.
- Package glass carefully.
- Ask yourself, "Would I give this item to a friend?"

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BUYER'S TIP

Shop at the End of the Day

Unless you're looking for a certain item, shop toward the end of the day, when people are looking to unload items for cheap rather than run to the donation center.

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