

GARAGE SALES

Planning a Donation

While you're considering what items to sell, when to sell them, how to price them and all the other intricacies of setting up a garage sale, don't forget one important part. What to do with the leftovers. With a little planning, this can be one of the easiest parts of your sale.

GET IN TOUCH AHEAD OF TIME

As soon as you know the date for your sale, start reaching out to charitable organizations in your area. Many of them with resell shops will come and pick up items for you for free. There are some questions you should ask, such as what types of items they'll accept and whether they can give you a window for pick-up. Sometimes, it's just on a day, in which case you may want to schedule a pick-up for the day after your sale.

QUESTIONS TO ASK

Some questions to ask when setting up an appointment are:

- What items do you not accept?
- Will you haul those items away, too, for a fee?
- Will I need to help load donated items?
- What time do you come pick up?
- Will you pick up items from inside the house or should they be outside?

For items they decline to take, arrange with your municipal

waste hauler or another company to dispose of them properly. Remember, the team from the charity may show up and decide not to take your items, too. Have a plan ready so that you're not stuck with any more clutter, and deduct any fees for disposal from your sale profits.

FILL OUT PAPERWORK AHEAD OF TIME

Ask if you can come by the organization or have any paperwork emailed to you. Have it filled out and ready to go when the donation pick-up crew arrives. Charities may ask for brand names and descriptions of each item, for instance, and you may have to sign something saying you have the right to give it to them.

You'll also want to get a receipt from the pick-up personnel stating they took the items. It should have the charity's name and address on it. Most organizations won't value the items for you; if you're donating something you believe has extraordinary value, have it



© ADOBE STOCK

appraised before you donate it to protect yourself when it comes to taxes.

TRANSPORTING ITEMS YOURSELF

If you don't have any large items or have just a few left-

overs, you may choose to take them to a donation center yourself. Choose the correct center for the items you have. Some resell organizations have certain locations that only take books or electronics, for example.

You can explore options such as recycling, especially for electronics. Just like charitable resellers, recyclers may pick up larger hauls for free. Recyclers may pay you for some items, such as large home appliances.

GARAGE SALES



© ADOBE STOCK

Planning a Donation

While you're considering what items to sell, when to sell them, how to price them and all the other intricacies of setting up a garage sale, don't forget one important part. What to do with the leftovers. With a little planning, this can be one of the easiest parts of your sale.

GET IN TOUCH AHEAD OF TIME

As soon as you know the date for your sale, start reaching out to charitable organizations in your area. Many of them with resell shops will come and pick up items for you for free. There are some questions you should ask, such as what types of items they'll accept and whether they can give you a window for pick-up. Sometimes, it's just on a day, in which case you may want to

schedule a pick-up for the day after your sale.

QUESTIONS TO ASK

Some questions to ask when setting up an appointment are:

- What items do you not accept?
- Will you haul those items away, too, for a fee?
- Will I need to help load donated items?
- What time do you come pick up?

• Will you pick up items from inside the house or should they be outside?

For items they decline to take, arrange with your municipal waste hauler or another company to dispose of them properly. Remember, the team from the charity may show up and decide not to take your items, too. Have a plan ready so that you're not stuck with any more clutter, and deduct any fees for disposal from your sale profits.

FILL OUT PAPERWORK AHEAD OF TIME

Ask if you can come by the organization or have any paperwork emailed to you. Have it filled out and ready to go when the donation pick-up crew arrives. Charities may ask for brand names and descriptions of each item, for instance, and you may have to sign something saying you have the right to give it to them.

You'll also want to get a receipt from the pick-up personnel stating they took the items. It should have the charity's name and address on it. Most organizations won't value the items for you; if you're donating something you believe has extraordinary

value, have it appraised before you donate it to protect yourself when it comes to taxes.

TRANSPORTING ITEMS YOURSELF

If you don't have any large items or have just a few leftovers, you may choose to take them to a donation center yourself. Choose the correct center for the items you have. Some resell organizations have certain locations that only take books or electronics, for example.

You can explore options such as recycling, especially for electronics. Just like charitable resellers, recyclers may pick up larger hauls for free. Recyclers may pay you for some items, such as large home appliances.

BUYER'S TIP

Scoop Up Leftovers

Toward the end of the day, sellers might be more willing to part with items at a steep discount just to get rid of them and avoid having to pack them up in the car and take them to a donation center. They may be willing to let you take all the leftovers for free, provided you pack them up and move them — all of them — yourself.

AD SPACE