

# GARAGE SALES

# How to Successfully Freecycle

Sometimes, no matter how good your sale is, it seems like you just can't give it away. So, try giving it away. Many areas have active freecycling communities where people use apps and social media to give away things or to trade for other things they'll need.

Keep reading for more tips on how to successfully freecycle.

## HOW TO FIND GROUPS

Visit [www.freecycle.org](http://www.freecycle.org). Type in your location to find groups near you, then follow the directions to sign up to receive regular emails. You can also look on social media to find local trade and barter groups, which you may need to fill out questionnaires to join. It may take a while to find the right group for you. Just be patient.

## BE FRIENDLY

Whether you're looking for  
or trying to get rid of things,  
remember that honey attracts



or have them on the phone when you're meeting people. Wear a mask out in public and use sanitizer after picking up your items.

Some places where the pandemic is still rampant may also offer door pick-ups, especially for trades or free items. Door pick-ups mean that the item is left in a protected area such as a front porch and you come to pick it up. No strangers have to meet (or exchange germs). If you're getting clothing or bedding, make sure you bring it home right away and wash it. Clean all other items well before you bring them into your home.

## PROPER ETIQUETTE

If you accept a free item and it doesn't work for you, pass it along to someone else in the group. It could be a piece of furniture that didn't work out or books that you've read. Try not to constantly ask for things or post wanted items without giving the group a good search before doing so. As in all transactions, free or trade or otherwise, buyer beware.

If you get frustrated, remember why you joined these groups: to help others with items you no longer use, and maybe get something you could use yourself. This is better for you and better for the planet.

more flies than vinegar. That means that, no matter what you're doing, do it with a smile. Be kind in all your interactions and treat people how you'd want to be treated. That means also being

prompt in your replies and in all your interactions with others on the apps you choose.

**BE SAFE**

Just like when you're meeting people for any other

transaction, take appropriate safety measures. Meet people in public, well-lit and busy places. If your local law enforcement department offers safe meet-up zones, use them. Bring friends with you

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## A cardboard box is filled with a variety of children's items. On the left, a large brown teddy bear sits next to a black and white soccer ball. In the center, there's a red toy car, a pair of blue and yellow sneakers, and a small white teddy bear. To the right, a smaller brown teddy bear is visible. The box also contains several books, including a spiral-bound notebook, a green book, and a pink book. Other items include a pair of blue and red striped socks, a white t-shirt, and a pair of blue jeans. A pair of hands is holding the box from the bottom.

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If you're trading, remember to trade things of equal value, but also remember to consider how much you really need it and how much they really need it. Be sure to think about the condition of your item and carefully evaluate the condition of the offered item as well. It helps to be somewhat picky but also to remember that beggars can't be choosers.

# AD SPACE