

# GARAGE SALES

## Donating Items Brings Good Vibes

So you've cleaned out but you can't hold a sale or don't feel comfortable holding a sale at this time. That's OK. You can still get a good feeling and maybe a little cash from your used stuff.

### WHERE TO DONATE

Look for local thrift stores that will take whatever items you have. Some shops may not accept furniture, some places may not take clothing. You may have to shop around a little depending on how much and what kind of things you have. If you've got large items, look for a charity or other organization that will pick up the items up for you.

### WHAT TO DONATE

Secondhand stores almost always need some kinds of goods, such as clothing in good condition, jewelry, games and sports equipment, housewares, linens and blankets, furniture, flat-screen TVs and more. Churches, shelters and other organizations may also be on the lookout for items, either to sell to raise money or to help those who need it.



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Some items that you may not be able to donate at all are:

- Cribs, car seats and expired baby gear.
- Walkers and other durable medical equipment.
- CRT monitors and televisions.
- Shoes that are scuffed or smelly.
- Anything with pet hair on it.
- Anything with missing pieces or accessories.

- Anything that's been recalled.
  - Worn socks or undergarments.
  - Building materials.
  - Used mattresses, box springs and sleeper furniture.
  - Breast pumps.
- Before you donate anything, Goodwill Industries suggests that you:
- 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?"

### GOING TO THE TRASH

If all else fails, it's time to responsibly dispose of your old stuff. That means recycling what can be recycled, including paper, plastic and metal goods marked with the

recycling logo and sorted according to your local recycling center's protocols. You may also be able to recycle clothing in your area, as well as some large appliances. Some items may require special disposal. These include paint and household chemicals, weapons and ammunition, prescriptions, bulky items and fireworks. Adhere to your local rules and regulations for getting rid of these items.

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### SELLER'S TIP

#### Know What Organizations Can Take

To get the best use of your donation, call local charities and other organizations to see which items they can use. They also may be able to have people on hand to help you unload or may know organizations that can help you take items that they cannot take.

## AD SPACE