

GARAGE SALES

Spooky Season on a Budget

Garage sales, with their eclectic mixes of vintage clothing, offbeat décor and bohemian (at best) accessories, are fantastic places to rummage around for the makings of a great Halloween costume. Get a jump start on spooky season with these ideas for your next garage sale run.

FINDING THE BASICS

Start planning your Halloween by looking for the foundation of your costume, the outfit. Here, you want to think about vintage or retro looks. These are going to be easier to find at your average garage sale. You can also get outside of the box with off-cast business suits for men and women, go glam with prom or wedding dresses, or even find sports jerseys. Other items you might find at a garage sale are military uniforms, scrubs and other clothes that might a costume make.



© ADOBE STOCK

ACCESSORIZE

No matter what you decide to go as for Halloween, you can likely find accessories at your local garage sale. From costume jewelry to sports paraphernalia, you're likely to find it there. Going as a baseball player? Look for used bats, mitts and even buckets

of baseballs. It doesn't matter if they're in the best shape; you're just using them for looks. Big, glam costume jewelry, hats and more are also easily found at many garage sales, and you can score the better parts of an old Hollywood look for just a few bucks.

GET IDEAS

If you're completely stumped, you can search out garage sales for inspiration. Sometimes it just takes the right dress, the right suit, the right hat, the right jewelry to spark a great idea. Or you can start with a store-bought costume and then make it more

believable with foraged finds such as a great pair of boots. This is also a good time to get a great deal on those things that linger around garage sales such as a single snow ski. If you do find your inspiration piece, then explain your idea to the seller and ask them if they have anything else you can use. Two heads are better than one, and the seller knows what they have. They may even give you a great deal.

DECORATING

Garage sales are also where people tend to get rid of old seasonal décor, and Halloween is no exception. Get the goods to deck out your own party at local garage sales. Make sure that sets have all the pieces and accessories that they should have. Robotic decorations or things that light up should be plugged in to make sure they work. Also check all of the wiring to make sure it's safe. Candles, as long as they're unused and the jars or holders are still in one piece, can safely be purchased. Check wreaths and flower arrangements to make sure they're still in good shape and that any adhesives are still holding up. People tend to store those items in places that can break down the Styrofoam and glue that often hold those things together.

GARAGE SALES



© ADOBE STOCK

Spooky Season on a Budget

Garage sales, with their eclectic mixes of vintage clothing, offbeat décor and bohemian (at best) accessories, are fantastic places to rummage around for the makings of a great Halloween costume. Get a jump start on spooky season with these ideas for your next garage sale run.

FINDING THE BASICS

Start planning your Halloween by looking for the foundation of your costume, the outfit. Here, you want to think about vintage or retro looks. These are going to be easier to find at your average garage sale. You can also get outside of the box with off-cast business suits for men and women, go glam with

prom or wedding dresses, or even find sports jerseys. Other items you might find at a garage sale are military uniforms, scrubs and other clothes that might a costume make.

ACCESSORIZE

No matter what you decide to go as for Halloween, you can likely find accessories at

your local garage sale. From costume jewelry to sports paraphernalia, you're likely to find it there. Going as a baseball player? Look for used bats, mitts and even buckets of baseballs. It doesn't matter if they're in the best shape; you're just using them for looks. Big, glam costume jewelry, hats and more are also easily found at many garage sales, and you can score the better parts of an old Hollywood look for just a few bucks.

GET IDEAS

If you're completely stumped, you can search out garage sales for inspiration. Sometimes it just takes the right dress, the right suit, the

right hat, the right jewelry to spark a great idea. Or you can start with a store-bought costume and then make it more believable with foraged finds such as a great pair of boots. This is also a good time to get a great deal on those things that linger around garage sales such as a single snow ski. If you do find your inspiration piece, then explain your idea to the seller and ask them if they have anything else you can use. Two heads are better than one, and the seller knows what they have. They may even give you a great deal.

DECORATING

Garage sales are also where people tend to get rid of old seasonal décor, and

Halloween is no exception. Get the goods to deck out your own party at local garage sales. Make sure that sets have all the pieces and accessories that they should have. Robotic decorations or things that light up should be plugged in to make sure they work. Also check all of the wiring to make sure it's safe. Candles, as long as they're unused and the jars or holders are still in one piece, can safely be purchased. Check wreaths and flower arrangements to make sure they're still in good shape and that any adhesives are still holding up. People tend to store those items in places that can break down the Styrofoam and glue that often hold those things together.

BUYER'S TIP

Beware Older Store-Bought Costumes

Beware of purchasing store-bought Halloween costumes that are over a certain age. Some of them contained dyes and other chemicals that have since proven dangerous or flammable. If you're buying masks, make sure you can see clearly through them.

AD SPACE