

# GARAGE SALES

## Tips for Downsizing

One of the top reasons people hold garage sales these days is because they're downsizing their home.

People downsize for many reasons, Rocket Mortgage says, including that they have too much unused space in their current home, that they'd like more money and freedom to work or travel, or that the kids have moved out and people are retiring and want to live a simpler life.

Keep reading for more tips on downsizing from Rocket Mortgage.

### GO SLOW

As soon as you decide you're serious about downsizing, start clearing out the clutter. Some organization methods for downsizing and decluttering are KonMari and the Four-Box Method.

In KonMari, you organize your home into categories, such as books, clothes, souvenirs, kitchen goods and sentimental items. Consider each item carefully and, if it no longer brings you joy, get rid of it.

In the Four-Box Method, you give yourself four options for each item: keep, donate, trash/recycle or sell. Don't put anything in storage; each item



© ADOBE STOCK

should go into one of those four boxes.

### CONSIDER YOUR NEW SPACE AND LIFESTYLE

Think about what your new

space will look like and measure out each room carefully. Plan according to the shape and square footage of each area and figure out what large furniture pieces can stay and

which need to go. If you don't know what your new space will look like yet, know that you'll still have to declutter and probably can't take everything with you. Focus on getting rid of

items you don't need or use, no matter what they are.

As far as your lifestyle changes, consider what you really want out of downsizing. Set goals such as traveling more or spending more time with family. Some questions to ask yourself include:

- What are your top reasons for wanting to downsize?
- What opportunities will downsizing create?
- What will you miss the most about your old home?
- Do you want to explore new hobbies or activities?
- What are you most excited about in downsizing?
- What are you most nervous about? What can you do to ease your anxiety?
- What's the first thing you want to do in your new home?

### SENTIMENTAL ITEMS

Be careful when decluttering that you don't just move sentimental items from one space to another. Really consider why you love each item and if you need that item to retain the memory of someone, something or someplace. An answer to the problem might be to divvy up sentimental items and parcel them out to friends and relatives to display in their homes. Some things, like a closet full of concert tees, can be remade into other things that take up less room and will get good use, like a quilt or wall art.

# GARAGE SALES



© ADOBE STOCK

## Tips for Downsizing

One of the top reasons people hold garage sales these days is because they're downsizing their home.

People downsize for many reasons, Rocket Mortgage says, including that they have too much unused space in their current home, that they'd like more money and freedom to work or travel, or that the kids have moved out and people are retiring and want to live a simpler life.

Keep reading for more tips on downsizing from Rocket Mortgage.

### GO SLOW

As soon as you decide

you're serious about downsizing, start clearing out the clutter. Some organization methods for downsizing and decluttering are KonMari and the Four-Box Method.

In KonMari, you organize your home into categories, such as books, clothes, souvenirs, kitchen goods and sentimental items. Consider each item carefully and, if it no longer brings you joy, get rid of it.

In the Four-Box Method, you give yourself four options

for each item: keep, donate, trash/recycle or sell. Don't put anything in storage; each item should go into one of those four boxes.

### CONSIDER YOUR NEW SPACE AND LIFESTYLE

Think about what your new space will look like and measure out each room carefully. Plan according to the shape and square footage of each area and figure out what large furniture pieces can stay and which need to go. If you don't know what your new space will look like yet, know that you'll still have to declutter and probably can't take everything with you. Focus on getting rid of items you don't

need or use, no matter what they are.

As far as your lifestyle changes, consider what you really want out of downsizing. Set goals such as traveling more or spending more time with family. Some questions to ask yourself include:

- What are your top reasons for wanting to downsize?
- What opportunities will downsizing create?
- What will you miss the most about your old home?
- Do you want to explore new hobbies or activities?
- What are you most excited about in downsizing?
- What are you most nervous about? What can you do to ease your anxiety?

• What's the first thing you want to do in your new home?

### SENTIMENTAL ITEMS

Be careful when decluttering that you don't just move sentimental items from one space to another. Really consider why you love each item and if you need that item to retain the memory of someone, something or someplace. An answer to the problem might be to divvy up sentimental items and parcel them out to friends and relatives to display in their homes. Some things, like a closet full of concert tees, can be remade into other things that take up less room and will get good use, like a quilt or wall art.

### BUYER'S TIP

#### Look for Older Neighborhoods for Downsizers

Older neighborhoods can be fertile ground for downsizing sales. As children grow up and head off to college and people retire, they start to turn over. Look for large sales that advertise that families are downsizing for great deals on all kinds of goods.

## AD SPACE