

GARAGE SALES

Pandemic Precautions

Just as people around the country were breathing a (sometimes mask-less) sigh of relief, the delta variant of the coronavirus has some areas masking up and social distancing again. That means you may have to adjust your plans for a garage or yard sale.

Here's how to hold and shop safely as the coronavirus spreads.

IN PUBLIC

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention say that you should get a COVID-19 vaccine as soon as you can. Generally, you do not need to wear a mask outdoors except for in crowded areas where there are high numbers of COVID-19 cases. If you were thinking about holding your sale indoors or in your garage, think about moving out to the yard so that you and your shoppers can get plenty of air and distance from one another.

The CDC recommends masks indoors even for fully vaccinated people to protect



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from the Delta variant and prevent possibly spreading it to others. If you're taking public transportation to and from your garage sale shopping, you should wear a mask there, too.

SOCIAL DISTANCING

The CDC is still recommending putting 6 feet of distance between you and peo-

ple who don't live in your household.

For sellers:

- Set up your sale so that shoppers have plenty of room to browse. Place your tables far enough apart that people can safely walk between them and don't crowd your tables with items so that browsers can leave plenty of distance between themselves and

other shoppers.

- Leave out masks and hand sanitizer for your shoppers to use.

- Disinfect tables and high-touch surfaces frequently. If you're using an app to take credit cards, wipe down the device between each use.

For buyers:

- Be patient and take your time when moving through a

sale. Be careful not to walk too closely to people that aren't in your household.

- Wear a mask, even when outside, if you're in a crowd.
- Use hand sanitizer frequently and only touch items you intend to purchase.

Monitor Your Health

Watch carefully for symptoms of COVID-19. The CDC says these include:

- Fever.
- Cough.
- Shortness of breath.
- Fatigue.
- Muscle or body aches or headaches.
- Sore throat.
- New loss of taste or smell.
- Congestion or a runny nose.

If you have any of these symptoms or suspect you've been around someone with COVID-19, get tested immediately. Stay at home except to get medical care, the CDC says, and stay in touch with your doctor. Avoid public transportation and ride-sharing, and separate from other people and pets in your home. If possible, use a separate bathroom and wear a mask if you have to be around other people in your home. Tell any close contacts that they may have been exposed to COVID-19. An infected person can spread the coronavirus starting 48 hours before symptoms develop or they test positive, the CDC says.

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SELLER'S TIP

Encourage Social Distancing

Encourage social distancing at your sale by setting up one-way browsing aisles between your tables. Keep your sale as open as you can with plenty of distance between tables. Mark off 6-foot intervals with masking tape or painter's tape in front of your check out table and ask people to keep social distancing as they shop.

AD SPACE