

# GARAGE SALES

## Giftable Garage Sale Finds

Garage sales are also good places to wrap up your holiday gift shopping. Here are some creative ideas that should please even the hard-to-shop-for people on your list.

### BOOKS

Got a bookworm? We've got the thing for them. Garage sales and estate sales are perfect places to find a bundle of books for pennies on the dollar. Ask the seller if you can negotiate a volume deal, maybe ten paperbacks for a dollar. Choose books in genres or by authors you know your intended recipient will enjoy.

Cookbooks are another great idea, and are perfect for the home cook. Vintage volumes are particularly in demand and are easy to find at garage and estate sales. Look for homes that say they're downsizing to find a wide selection. Again, negotiate with the seller for volume deals.

### RECORDS

Music fans, rejoice. You can find entire vinyl collections at garage sales these days,



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including hard-to-find records. Some particularly rare finds include Frank Sinatra's "In the Wee Small Hours" (1955); "Paul's Boutique" by the Beastie Boys (1989); Johnny Cash, "At Folsom Prison" (1968); "Are You Experienced"

from The Jimi Hendrix Experience (1967). A creative idea for the music collector is to find records with interesting cover art. Look through collections for those and set the covers in frames for a special gift.

### VINTAGE CLOTHING

Garage and estate sales are full of vintage clothing and accessories, both of which make great and thoughtful holiday gifts. Before you buy, make sure the items are in good condition or can be

repaired to make them like new. Have them professionally cleaned before wrapping them up so that they smell fresh and are ready to wear. Remember that older clothing sizes don't necessarily correspond to modern sizes. Rely on measurements instead for the best fit.

### ELECTRONICS

Gaming systems, phones, tablets, computers, e-readers and more line garage sale tables. You'll need to make sure they work as promised or are priced well enough that you'll take the chance. See that all the chargers and cables are included or that the price reflects the fact that they're not. Also check to make sure they can be easily replaced. You don't want to give someone a gift they can't use immediately.

### FURNITURE

Consider gifting well-made, gently used furniture, especially if someone is setting up a household or looking for a particular piece. If you're handy, look for pieces with good bones that you can refinish to perfectly complement the recipient's decor. Before gifting something large, make sure they have room in their home. You may have to enlist a partner for this one.



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### BUYER'S TIP

#### Share the Wealth

Many of the things on this list are things that, if they're in garage sales, they're there in bulk. Sellers may be more than happy to let you take the lot for a low, low price. Take the books, magazines, records or whatever it is that you don't need and donate them to a retirement home near you. That will brighten up your holiday as well as the residents'.

## AD SPACE