

# GARAGE SALES

## Staying Safe During COVID-19

It's been months since the coronavirus pandemic began and the virus is still holding on strong, and now cold and flu season is upon us. If local ordinances allow for it, you can still hold a garage sale safely by using these tips.

### **FOLLOW LOCAL ORDERS**

Listen to your local authorities for guidance on how many people can gather in a place safely. Some areas of the country are open for gatherings of all sizes, while others are still under strict quarantine. Also follow local ordinances on social distancing and mask-wearing as they may differ from area to area.

### **SOCIAL DISTANCING AND MASKS**

Even if local authorities don't mandate social distancing and masks, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend both as good ways to protect yourself and others from COVID-19. Stay at least 6 feet away from other people and wear a disposable or double-layer



© ADOBE STOCK

cloth mask. Wear disposable gloves if you're hitting multiple sales and change them out frequently. Avoid touching your face and use hand sanitizer and wash your hands frequently.

Sellers, when you set up your sale, put out extra hand sanitizers for shoppers to use.

Space your tables far enough apart so that your shoppers can social distance while browsing your items. At your check-out table, mark the ground with painter's tape in 6-foot intervals to make it easier for your shoppers to distance while they wait in line to buy.

### **BE CAREFUL WITH CASH**

We all know that cash can carry germs, and that's also true with COVID-19 and the flu. Consider using one of the secure cash transfer apps such as Cash App, Venmo or PayPal to make your sale safer. Also remember that there's a coin shortage in

parts of the country and getting change from the bank may be difficult.

### **CLEAN AND DISINFECT**

Sellers, your items should be clean for a successful sale, anyway, but take an extra step and disinfect, too. Buyers, wipe your purchases down before you bring them home. Bring plastic bags with you and put your purchases in those and put them in the trunk for the ride home. Wash clothing and other fabric items before using or displaying them. If the items can't be disinfected, leave them outside in a garage or other protected area for 14 days before bringing them in.

### **SELL ONLINE**

If holding a sale at home seems too daunting or you don't want to be exposed to that many people, consider selling online via apps or social media. It's a little more work, but it may pay off in terms of safety. Remember not to meet buyers and sellers at your home. Choose a public place and bring a friend with you to pick up or drop off items. Many police stations offer a public exchange site at their station now. If you're shopping, use common sense when it comes to making a deal. Someone's not likely to let the latest iPhone go for \$25.

# GARAGE SALES



© ADOBE STOCK

## Staying Safe During COVID-19

It's been months since the coronavirus pandemic began and the virus is still holding on strong, and now cold and flu season is upon us. If local ordinances allow for it, you can still hold a garage sale safely by using these tips.

### FOLLOW LOCAL ORDERS

Listen to your local authorities for guidance on how many people can gather in a place safely. Some areas of the country are open for gatherings of all sizes, while others are still under strict quarantine. Also follow local ordinances on social distancing and mask-wearing as they may differ from area to area.

### DISTANCING AND MASKS

Even if local authorities don't mandate social distancing and masks, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend both as good

ways to protect yourself and others from COVID-19. Stay at least 6 feet away from other people and wear a disposable or double-layer cloth mask. Wear disposable gloves if you're hitting multiple sales and change them out frequently. Avoid touching your face and use hand sanitizer and wash your hands frequently.

Sellers, when you set up your sale, put out extra hand sanitizers for shoppers to use. Space your tables far enough apart so that your shoppers can social distance while browsing your items. At your check-out table, mark the ground with painter's tape in

6-foot intervals to make it easier for your shoppers to distance while they wait in line to buy.

### BE CAREFUL WITH CASH

We all know that cash can carry germs, and that's also true with COVID-19 and the flu. Consider using one of the secure cash transfer apps such as Cash App, Venmo or PayPal to make your sale safer. Also remember that there's a coin shortage in parts of the country and getting change from the bank may be difficult.

### CLEAN AND DISINFECT

Sellers, your items should be clean for a successful sale, anyway, but take an extra step and disinfect, too. Buyers, wipe your purchases down before you bring them home. Bring plastic bags with you and put your purchases in those and put them in the trunk for the ride

home. Wash clothing and other fabric items before using or displaying them. If the items can't be disinfected, leave them outside in a garage or other protected area for 14 days before bringing them in.

### SELL ONLINE

If holding a sale at home seems too daunting or you don't want to be exposed to that many people, consider selling online via apps or social media. It's a little more work, but it may pay off in terms of safety. Remember not to meet buyers and sellers at your home. Choose a public place and bring a friend with you to pick up or drop off items. Many police stations offer a public exchange site at their station now. If you're shopping, use common sense when it comes to making a deal. Someone's not likely to let the latest iPhone go for \$25.

### BUYER'S TIP

#### Bundle and Save

Sellers want to get rid of items just as much as they want to make money, say garage saling pros. Select several items to purchase and offer them one price.

## AD SPACE