

How to hold a Garage Sale



- Be respectful to neighbouring properties and not extend further than your property line; and
- Notify your neighbours of an upcoming garage sale. You may get a few more bargain hunters or may encourage them to hold their own garage sale. You may attract more buyers by being able to offer a wider selection.

Why hold a garage sale?

Garage Sales are an effective way to reduce household clutter and save the environment by rehoming preloved items all while making a bit of extra money.

Do I need a permit to hold a garage sale?

In accordance to Part 6 of Public Places and Local Government Property Local Law 2016, a permit is not required to hold a garage sale on private property. A garage sale must be contained within the residential boundary of the seller and not extend to the footpath or nature strip.

A permit is not required as a garage sale must be held on private property.

Being respectful to neighbours

Although you do not require a permit to conduct a garage sale, consideration for your neighbours (such as noise, parking, signage and creating a nuisance) is regulated under local laws. Some key points to consider are:

- To reduce the impact of noise, start your garage sale after 8:00am and have them completed prior to 7:00pm



Signage

- Signage is to be temporary and displayed only for the duration of the garage sale
- Keep your signs under one metre square
- Keep your signage to a minimum. Have no more than one sign on your property and one at the end of the street
- Signs must not be affixed to power poles, street signs, trees or any structure within the road reserve
- Ensure that signs are secure. Signs must not be dangerous and cause obstructions to pedestrians or motorists.
- When your garage sale is over, take down all your signage. Rangers may confiscate the signs and issue an infringement in accordance to section 24a of the Litter Act 1979

Garage Sale Tips

1. Plan when you are going to hold your sale

Weekends are best to hold a garage sale. Avoid scheduling on public holidays/long weekends and during special events as you may not attract as many buyers. Make sure that you schedule far enough in advance to be able to advertise your sale effectively

2. Decide what items you are going to sell.

This is a good chance to clean out every room in the house including the garage. Identify items that are no longer needed, wanted or used.

3. Price your items beforehand

You may need to prepare the sale beforehand, as some bargain hunters like to attend garage sales early. If you get busy, people may not want to wait around to ask for a price, or people maybe too shy to ask. If you have many items that are the same, for example books, you may want to place them all in a pile and label the pile rather than each individual book.

4. Presenting items for display

- Make sure all items are clean, dusted and any clothing washed and ironed.
- Hang clothing like dresses, suits, skirts, coats and jackets.
- Grouping items is recommended and placing items on long narrow tables works best.
- Make sure any items that need electricity are placed near an electrical source so people can test that the item works before buying.
- Display large merchandise and some good items for both men and women so they can be easily seen from the roadside. This will entice people to stop and visit your garage sale.
- Don't place items in boxes on the ground. It's easier for people to look through contents if placed on a table.
- Remember to place any glass or breakable items to the back of tables to protect against damage.
- Putting linen items together and wrapping with a pretty ribbon is appealing to buyers.

5. Handling money

Ensure that you have a lot of change available. Keep large sums of money secured and do not accept cheques or money orders. You will also need a calculator, petty cash box, pencil and pen, your inventory list, newspaper to wrap valuables, empty boxes and a tape measure. Encourage people to bring their reusable bags to the sale instead of using plastic bags.

You're now ready to hold a garage sale! Be cheerful, get people talking and encourage haggling. Most importantly, have fun and enjoy the rewards from your hard work.

6. At the end of the sale

Consider what you will do with the unsold items after the sale. You may consider storing the items for a future garage sale or:

Charity organisations – Don't Dump on a Charity. Make sure items are reusable, resalable, clean unsoiled and in working condition. Charity staff will assess items and let you know if they are willing to accept the items you are offering.

City of Fremantle Recycling Centre – Take your unwanted recyclable items to the recycling centre. Visit the website for a list of the accepted items.

<https://www.fremantle.wa.gov.au/residents/waste-recycling/recycling-centre-and-stations>

Regular Swapmeets – Melville Markets are a great way to sell unwanted items. Meeting every Sunday morning, you may pay \$15 for a bay. Please see their Facebook page for more details. <https://www.facebook.com/melvillemarkets/>

