

# GARAGE SALE DAYS

## Shopping Tips

Here are some simple tips to make garage and yard sale shopping enjoyable and successful!

### *Plan your route in advance*

Determine which yard sales you want to attend and plan the shortest route to visit them. And make sure to visit our classifieds site the night before to get a complete list of garage and yard sales.

### *Bring measurements for furniture*

If you're looking for furniture or other large items, know the dimensions of the space you want to fill and bring a measuring tape to be sure any new items will fit.

### *Early birds sometimes get the worm*

There are advantages to being the first and the last of the day. The early shoppers get the best selection, but late shoppers often get the best deals on items that haven't sold.

### *Dress comfortably*

If you're a serious bargain hunter, you're going to need to pound the pavement for at least a few hours. Be sure to wear sneakers or at least shoes that won't give you blisters!



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### *Negotiate, but don't insult the seller*

Don't be afraid to offer less than the asking price (some people purposely overprice). A rule of thumb is to offer about 75% of the asking price. Don't go too low or you'll insult the seller. Remember that people may be attached to their stuff even when they're selling it.

### *Only buy what you need*

Don't buy a hundred LP's or Betamax tapes from your neighbor just because they're 10 for a dollar. Exercise a little buyers' discipline!

### *Inspect your items fully*

You can't return what you buy from a yard or garage sale, so make sure that electric or battery operated items work. Have the seller plug them in or put in fresh batteries. Open board games or puzzles to make sure all the pieces are there.

### *Carry cash*

Most yard sales only accept cash. Make sure you bring enough. And bring small bills.

### *Have fun!*

Above all, take your time and make a great day of it. You will find lots of great things and meet some interesting people. Enjoy the experience.

