

Garage Sale Suggestions & Ideas

Locations Suggestions

College conference centers, parking lots, & entry ways make a great place to have a garage sale. Be sure to get this approved with the correct people. Member house also work well. You could also rent out a community center. See if you can encourage other club on your campus to have a garage sale in the same location and same time as you. You can then share in the advertising costs and any location costs you occur.

Delegating Assignments to Members

Print one copy of the check list for ever members. Have them highlight tasks they are in charge of and put a due date next to it. If you are the chair of the event, write the name of each member by the task they are in charge of with the due date.

Donations

Staff are always willing to donate their unwanted stuff, but they need to be contacted well in advance. Putting reminders in their mail box or having Advisor e-mail all staff is a great way to contact them. Make sure your contact information is on everything. Students are also willing to donate if they are made aware of the garage sale. Have someone who is willing to pick larger items up with a van or truck. If you don't have an area to store donations pick out or college day before sale.

How to divide \$ earned

We suggest that \$ is divided based on hours volunteered to run event.

Member hours are best tracked by minimum $\frac{1}{4}$ hour increments. Members may be given credit for donations. It is all up to the chair or committee of the event. **Suggestion** give members a credit of $\frac{1}{2}$ hour for every FULL apple box they donated. Items should be in good condition, clean, and pre priced. If they are not when donated, that member is in charge of doing so or receiving no credit for the donation. They are also not allowed to claim hours while they are taking care of items they are donating and taking credit for. Event chairs tend to earn more hours than members because as they spend time organizing and planning event.

If members show up for volunteer times but do not help, they will receive no credit for their time. This should be made clear to all members before hand.

Costs

Track cost for garage sale: newspaper ad, bags, etc. Create a spreadsheet to track these costs as they may vary by year and event.

Lunch

On the day of the Garage Sale, we suggest you provide lunch out of the Garage Sale profits or have a chapter pot luck. This could be a great social event.

Bags

If bags for the sale are needed, you can ask local stores (Farm & Flee, Walmart) for them. Best idea is to start saving or asking members to bring bags. Also, keep boxes to give to customers for items as well.

Pricing

Don't price anything for less than \$0.25! This makes adding items easier. If you feel that an item is worth less than \$0.25 combined together in little bags or with tape.

To get rid of a lot of clothes (if you have lots donated) we suggest pricing them \$0.50 per item or \$2.00 per bag (provide same size bags) for any clothing items on the table. Nicer clothing items like dresses, coats, or really nice clothing can be priced \$1.00 each. Put on a rack to separate.

Other pricing includes: Hardcover Books - \$1.00, Paperback - \$0.50, Shoes - \$1.00, VHS - \$0.50, DVDs - \$1.00 unless otherwise marked. Have signs posted and a list at the front check-out counter for member cashiers. Make members aware of the prices before they price their items so everything is the same and you don't have to re-price items.

Decide who is in charge of item pricing and who may change a price for customers, this way a \$30 item won't go for \$5.

½ Off Time

In the last hour or so of the sale, offer half off on everything. Anything \$.25 is BOGO FREE! This makes clean up easier and less to haul away.