

Preparing for Garage Sales & Flea Market Shopping Checklist

Before you go:

- Check the weather, you'll need to know what to wear.
- Dress in layers in case it gets warm/cold.
- Wear comfortable, closed toe shoes.
- Have enough cash ready, small bills are a must!
- Make a list of things you're looking for.
- Take inventory of what you do have so you know what you DON'T need.
- Take measurements of any space you are looking to fill.
- If you are going out to multiple garage sales in a day, map it out so you are making the most of your time.
- If you are planning on buying furniture, pack blankets to stack things on/between, straps/ropes to tie things down and tools to take things apart to fit them in your car.

What to bring:

- Backpack to carry small items & supplies
- Tape measure
- List of things you're looking for
- Baby wipes & tissues
- Snacks
- Water
- Hand sanitizer
- Pen and paper to jot down ideas
- Sunscreen/bug spray

Shopping:

- Go early – the earliest bird gets the best stuff.
- Go in with a creative mind. Remember, you can pretty much paint anything. Think how you could use the item in a different way.
- Make sure items you are looking at are not stained/doesn't smell
- Make sure the items have good bones and are not broken beyond YOUR repair.
- Make sure it works, sit in the chair, try the lamp.
- If you LOVE it, buy it. It may not be there when you go back.
- Don't buy something just because it's cheap.
- Don't be afraid to dig through those boxes in the back.
- Don't forget to look at seasonal items, like Christmas.
- When you are ready to pay, don't be afraid to negotiate, they expect it, but BE POLITE and respectful. Try to bundle if possible to get the best deal.

