



## Garage sales

Garage sales can be done individually or as a block event. The friendly and inviting atmosphere of the garage sale can also increase the sense of community.

**The following are crime prevention tips and the city ordinance that can help you have a successful sale.**

### Before The Sale

- Get help from your friends and neighbors. Have two or more people on duty, especially during rush times.
- Place smaller, more expensive items next to your checkout table.
- Cover items in your garage that you are not selling. Remove expensive items in your garage from view.
- Let your neighbors know about your sale so they don't leave their garage doors open and allow others to see what's kept in their garages.
- Hold your sale outside of your house.
- If you set up the night before, make sure your garage windows are covered and that your garage is secure.
- Secure dogs and other pets.
- Do not attach flyers to utility or light poles, trees, or vacant buildings. It's against the law.



### During The Sale

- Plan to stay at your sale the entire time. Do not leave sale unattended.
- Keep a minimal amount of cash on hand.
- Don't answer personal questions about your schedule, living situation, or what's in your house.
- Keep your house locked while you are in the garage or yard.
- Do not let people use your house for any reason — trying on clothing, testing a small appliance to see if it works, using the bathroom.
- Leave radio on in the house so it seems as though someone is inside.
- Greet everyone so they know they've been seen.
- Beware of distractions that could draw your attention away from the money and/or valuables.
- Accepting checks is a personal choice. Use caution.
- Keep keys and garage door openers out of sight.

### After The Sale

- Take down your signs around the neighborhood after the sale.

**Minneapolis Ordinance 321.20 states that no sale may exceed a period of 72 consecutive hours. No more than two sales can be held in any 12-month period. None of the items offered for sale shall have been purchased for resale or received on consignment for the purpose of resale.**

Contact your crime prevention specialist for additional prevention information. Call 311 (or 612-673-3000) or see [www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/outreach/docs/safe-staff-map.pdf](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/outreach/docs/safe-staff-map.pdf) to locate your neighborhood crime prevention specialist.



**English:** Attention. If you want help translating this information, call 612-673-3737

**Spanish:** Atención. Si desea recibir asistencia gratuita para traducir esta información, llame 612-673-2700

**Somali:** Ogow. Haddii aad dooneyso in lagaa kaalmeeyo tarjamadda macluumaadkani oo lacag la' aan wac 612-673-3500

**Hmong:** Ceeb toom. Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais cov xov no rau koj dawb, hu 612-673-2800

**Sign Language:** TTY 612-673-2626

If you need this material in an alternative format, please contact the Minneapolis Police Department at 612-673-2912.