



# Holding a Successful Garage Sale

*A Garage Sale is a great way to clear your house of clutter, make money and, most importantly, have fun!*

## Your complete Garage Sale Checklist

*“ I want to hold a garage sale. Where do I start?”*



### Firstly

- Find a space to gather all items to be sold
- Ask your family, friends and neighbours if they have items to be sold
- Clean and price all items
- Work out how many helpers you need on the day
- Choose a Saturday or Sunday, 3 - 4 weeks ahead to hold the Garage Sale
- Check your local community guide to ensure no major events or sporting games will be held on that same date



### Two Weeks Before

- Place a brief advertisement in your local paper detailing the address, day, date and start and finish times
- Don't include your name and telephone number in the advertisement



### The Evening Before and Day of Sale

- Place signage and arrows on the corners of your street and on both sides of major roads leading to your street. Ask your local First National agent if you may borrow their garage sale signs
- Have all helpers wear a money belt or, alternatively, have one person handling transactions
- Have plenty of change available
- Have drinks and seating available for helpers



### Getting Organised

- Sort through your possessions to look for items you no longer need. Store them separately. Let family, friends and neighbours know you're holding a Garage Sale and ask if they have items they would like included. Ask if they would like to help on the day. Clean all items to ensure a good price



### The Date and Time

- Choose a Saturday, or Sunday, three to four weeks ahead. Ensure the day does not clash with major events or sporting activities that may affect attendance of buyers or helpers. Begin pricing items
- 9am is a good starting time as you will find serious buyers will probably start knocking on your door an hour or so before. An earlier start could result in buyers disturbing you and the neighbours. Remember to clearly state a finish time (12pm or 1pm), otherwise you will still have people coming later in the day



### Advertising and Signs

- Place advertisements in your local paper two weeks before, as most Garage Sale hunters will normally check local papers. Daily papers tend to be expensive, but some do have special sections and deals that may be worth investigating. Place an advertisement one week ahead and again the day before the event
- Do not include your name or telephone number or you may be inundated with phone calls

- Your advertisement should be brief. If you have special items that you think will entice buyers, remember to mention them. List items such as furniture, baby goods, books, bric-a-brac etc.

- Place signage the evening before or on the morning of the sale. Keep signs brief - day, time and address

- Directional arrows may be helpful. Place on the corners of your street and both sides of major roads leading to your street

- Please respect other people's property when putting up signs. Consider approaching local shopkeepers as they may allow signs in their windows. Also, consider community notice boards. These can be placed about a week before the event. Often your First National Real Estate office will also be able to help you with the supply of directional pointer signs



### Security

- Have plenty of change available - lots of small items will require plenty of small change. Large items may require you to break larger notes
- Do not accept personal cheques. Ensure all items are paid for and removed immediately, or at least on the day. If people wish to pick up items later in the day, be sure to get the payment in full. If really pushed to hold an item, give a limited time, say half an hour

*The key to holding a successful garage sale is planning. Important matters, such as date, start and finish times, clarity in advertising and signs and security, all play a role in the success of your Garage Sale. For help with your Garage Sale, call your nearest First National agent on 13 16 66.*