



Five Tips For Decluttering Your Garage

Let's face it, over the winter our garages have become a catch-all space. Not only can't we find what we're looking for, but we're tripping over stuff in the process. With the weather finally warming up, it's the perfect time to take back our garage space.

When you're ready to tackle your garage cleanup, here's 5 tips to help you every step of the way.

Give yourself room to work.

Move cars, bikes, and other large items out of your garage. You'll need as much space as you can get to sort through all your stuff.

Take inventory.

Go through each and every item and place it in one of these four piles: sell, donate, trash, and keep. The sell, donate, and trash piles (discard piles) should be closer to the door or even on the driveway for easier removal. Put the keep pile in the middle of the garage.

Deal with the discard piles immediately.

Sell: Take a picture of each item. That way you'll have them all in your camera when you're ready to place your ads. Then put the items in a designated place in your garage or house so you can easily get to them.

Donate: Put these items in boxes or plastic bags and place them in your car to deliver later to your favorite charity. Most charities accept toys, sporting and lawn care equipment, tools, and housewares.

Trash: If you have a small pile, throw it in your trash bin. If you have too much for your weekly trash pickup, schedule a junk removal company to haul the pile away. Many companies offer same-day or next-day service.

Sort the keep pile.

Group similar items together: tools, car maintenance items, yard/gardening equipment, sporting equipment, etc. Clean them up and then place them in their designated zones.

Invest in storage systems.

If you don't already have shelves, hooks, pegboards, and plastic totes, now is the time to get them. There are many options on the market that fit any budget and will keep your items organized and off the ground. Plus, they really help to maximize your space.

Depending on how much clutter you have, this could be a huge undertaking. Stay with it, even if it takes a couple of days. It will be well worth the work when you're done and enjoying a clean, organized garage!

