

Fundraising Help Sheet - Car boots/Bring & Buy/Jumble Sales

How do I organise a sale?

The first thing you need to ensure is that you have access to plenty of good-quality unwanted goods, either from your own home, or from friends and family. You could choose to make it a sale of specific types of goods, such as books, toys or toiletries, or you could opt for miscellaneous stuff.

I haven't got enough of my own things, so how can I get more?

Put the word out among your friends, family, neighbours or colleagues. Be specific about what kinds of things you are looking for, and make it clear that the items need to be of reasonable quality. Or, you could put a free ad up in your local post office or shop window, if they offer this facility, or put a free ad in the listings section of your local paper. Ensure you have decided what you want to accept, how much you plan to take and how you are going to collect it? If you aren't able to collect donated items yourself, you'll need to give details of how they can be delivered to you.

How do I decide what price to give each item?

If you have items that are of a similar value, you could opt for the 'everything for a £1' approach, or you could trust your own judgement to price everything individually. Alternatively, you could just open your stall up to offers, and invite people to make a bid for things.

Where can I do my sale?

If you've applied to take part in an organised car boot, you'll already have the venue in place, but if you're organising your own sale, you might want to find out about hiring something like a social club or church hall. If you're lucky, you may even get the venue free of charge, or at least for a reduced cost, because you're doing a charity event. Find out what the best terms are. On the other hand, you might have the space to run your stall from your own home, or somebody else's or, if the weather's good enough, from yours or a friend's garden.

How can I attract people to my sale?

Put an ad in the notices section of your local paper - it should be free. If you've a community noticeboard somewhere in your town, advertise there. - most supermarkets offer these notice boards, for example. Put notices up on your work noticeboard, or send an email message round.

What about safety?

You must take all possible precautions to ensure your health and safety, and that of any other helpers, as well as visitors to your sale. Ensure that the health and safety measures and procedures of any venue you might be using are sound.

Can I get hold of posters or leaflets so that people know what I am raising money for?

Yes. We can send you sample posters that you can modify and print for your event.