



## Finding a New Home for Household Items Without Spending a Bunch!

One of the most daunting tasks of selling a senior's home is determining what to do with the household items that have been collecting for forty or fifty years. Often, the elderly homeowner is not able to handle the packing and moving alone, and relies on family or outside help. If family lives far away or resources are limited, the work of sorting household items can seem so overwhelming, that the senior does not even know where to begin.

At SASH, we have been assisting seniors through the home sale process for years. Through this experience, we've learned how to keep it simple while still providing complete services, from start to sold. Here are a few tips to find a new home for all of your household items, without spending a bunch:

- First, determine what items will fit in your new home: Try to keep the number of items you'll move to your new home, as simple as you can. This will lower moving costs. Label these items "New Home" so that they are off-limits at the time of the estate sale, charity pickup, etc.
- Have family and loved ones choose what they'd like: There are some creative ways to give items to family and friends, so that it's fair and fun for everyone. Require that folks take what they want immediately, so that your home is not used as a "storage unit" while you are selling your home. If family cannot take as much as you had hoped, then you can move to the next step.
- Have an estate sale: We strongly encourage our clients not to try to do this on their own, but to hire experienced estate sale professionals who can create great results from the sale. Many estate sale services take a percentage of the total sale proceeds, which means you have few out of pocket expenses. Relax and let them do the sorting, labeling, lifting, and advertising. You may make enough from the estate sale to pay for your move!
- Donate to charity: Charitable organizations often provide pick-up services if they are given advance notice. They'll only take what they can either use or sell. However, it's a low-cost, generous way to empty closets, attics, basement rooms, and even the tools in the garage. Ask for a receipt for a tax deduction!
- Hire professional cleaners: Once you have divested of many of the items, then bring in strong helpers to finish room by room. There are services that can come and clean out the rest of the home, packing or bagging items to dispose of or move, until the job is complete!

By the end of this process, the household belongings you have left are those items you'll take to your new home. You've sorted, simplified, downsized, and now the giant task is complete. Using these tips, hopefully you'll save a significant sum of money and still accomplish your goal, of being ready to move to the new home.

SASH Senior Home Sale Services provides assistance to seniors and their families through each step of the downsizing and home sale process. Call to learn how we can help!

By Rebecca Bomann, CEO/Founder of SASH Senior Home Sale Services. © 2012 All Rights Reserved  
Reproduction permitted in entirety, with full attribution, and a direct link to [www.sashservices.com](http://www.sashservices.com)

From Start to Sold. The Trusted Service in Senior Home Sales.

[www.sashservices.com](http://www.sashservices.com) | 1-888-400-SASH (7274)