

Garage Cleanout Checklist

A one-weekend plan to reclaim the garage — sort system, load order, and the items that can't ride. · Recommended size: 15–20 yard

Planning timeline

1 week out: Pick the weekend; book the dumpster for Friday delivery

3 days out: Schedule a donation pickup for Sunday

Day 1: Pull everything to the driveway: Keep / Donate / Toss

Day 2: Load the Toss zone through the rear doors; break boxes flat

Day 3: Sweep, organize keepers, call for pickup

Safety reminders

- Lift with your legs — use a dolly for anything over 40 lbs
- Wear gloves; garages hide rusted metal and broken glass
- Set aside paint, chemicals, batteries, and propane — they cannot go in
- Keep kids and pets clear while loading

Dumpster sizing

A single-car garage almost always fits a 15-yard; a packed two-car steps up to a 20. Both keep a 16-foot footprint that shares the driveway with a vehicle.

Tips from the pros

- Touch each item once — decide fast and move on
- Stack furniture upright to use the container's full height
- Load heavy items first, on the floor of the can
- Photograph anything you might sell before it goes in

Recycling suggestions

- Scrap metal: bring us a metal load and the dump fee is waived
- Usable furniture and tools: donation trucks book fast — schedule early
- Cardboard: flatten and recycle curbside if volume is small

Common mistakes to avoid

- Renting too small to save \$50, then paying for a second haul
- Piling debris beside the can instead of in it
- Tossing the paint cans — they're prohibited everywhere
- Starting the sort with the memory boxes (do those last)

Project notes
