



**Garage Sale Safety Tips- Be Cautious of recalled items and don't be a victim of a criminal.**

### **Spring and summer is yard sale season**

Be aware that recalled items commonly show up in garage sales and thrift stores. Whether hosting or visiting a yard sale, follow these safety tips to keep kids safe from recalled items:

#### **Yard Sale and Recalled Items Checklist**

- Check all products you buy/sell against the CPSC's list of recalled products at [cpsc.gov](http://cpsc.gov). Check car seats at [NHTSA.gov](http://NHTSA.gov).
- Do not sell/buy items that are broken or missing pieces (especially for items that need to be assembled, such as cribs).
- Do not sell/buy older model cribs, car seats, or playpens that do not meet current safety standards (over 5 years old is too old to be reused). Beware of products with protruding hardware or rotating top rails that do not properly lock into place.
- Do not sell/buy baby bath seats or bath rings, baby walkers, or sleep positioners as these are not safe for use.
- Include manufacturer info, instructions, and product registration cards when possible. These can sometimes be found at the manufacturer's website.
- Never sell a car seat or bike helmet that has been involved in a crash as it won't protect adequately in the next one. Don't buy used car seats or helmets since you can't be sure of its history.
- Make sure children's clothing doesn't have drawstrings around the hood or neck. Drawstrings can catch onto playground and other equipment and strangle young children. Drawstrings at the waist should be no longer than three inches.



- Check the CPSC’s recall list for play basketball hoops as these can pose a strangulation hazard.
- If a hazardous or recalled product is found, alert the yard sale host and properly dispose of it.

### **A yard sale can be an easy target for criminals**

- \* Always have a sale with a “buddy,” not alone and don’t give the impression that you are there alone.
- \* Keep an eye on your moneybox and the people around it.
- \* Empty your cash box from time to time and put the money in the house.
- \* Don't let “customers” in your house for any reason.
- \* Be firm with people. They are used to hearing no and will try to wear you down.
- \* Drive carefully when entering and exiting the street in front of a home with a yard sale. Many people are looking at what's on the lawn and not at who's on the street.

Finally, watch your stuff. People shoplift at yard sales just like anywhere else.