Ah, there’s nothing like a relaxing Sunday—go to church. Read the paper. Eat brunch. And go to a garage sale?!

That’s right, it’s Sunday and Santina Harmon is taking a chance. “The last time I had one on a Sunday it was packed so I figured I’d try it again,” the real estate agent told me. Yes, she’s opened up a garage sale on a Sunday. But it’s not just at her house. She’s organized an entire neighborhood sale on what’s typically a day of rest for most of us—even for garage sale hunters. “I’ve been really busy so far. I’ve sold half of what you see here and …well, what time is it? Oh my gosh it’s only 8:51. It’s been good.”

This surprises me. I’ve been to garage sales on Sundays and usually the sellers are twiddling their thumbs. There are several reasons Sundays are not typically the best day to hold a sale. 1/Many bargain hunters have been busy snapping up deals on Friday and Saturday and are out of money or energy. 2/Most buyers assume the signs are left over from the day before and won’t follow them. 3/Most of us assume a Sunday sale would be well picked over. But Sandy and the rest of her Scottsdale community didn’t even open up shop on Friday or Saturday. Their one chance to get rid of stuff was on a Sunday. So, Sandy told me about her sale so I just had to check it out. About ten other homes participated and the idea got mixed reaction from other sellers in the neighborhood. “Yeah, I don’t know why we chose Sunday it’s pretty slow and as you can see we have a lot left,” says Karen Beacom who was selling mostly paper party goods such as hats and decorations. “It seems to me like Friday and Saturday would’ve been better,” Karen added.

Meanwhile, amazingly, I found a couple that garage sale only on Sundays. Viva Krause and her husband Eric in fact, say it’s the best day to look for bargains. “We’ve already hit about six garage sales so far today. But we love it. My husband’s off work and people are practically giving things away,” Viva tells me.

Patti McDaniel came from Avondale to participate in the sale. She brought things over to a friend’s house to sell but she was also checking out the other sales in the area. “I’m having a great time. I work most of the week so Sunday’s my one day off. It’s a perfect day for a garage sale,” Patti told me as she snapped up a few bargains at Santina’s sale.

Sunday Sale Tips
If you’d like to try a Sunday sale here’s how to attract more buyers to your sale.
*Make sure your signs specifically say “Sunday Sale”. That way there’s no confusion on if the signs were simply forgotten and are from the day before. “Please tell people to take down their signs. We waste a lot of time following signs only to find out there is no sale,” says Eric Krause who usually bargain hunts on Sundays.
*Consider your customer. Open early enough to get the on-the-way-to-church crowd and stay open late enough for those on their way to brunch.
*Prepare to make deals. Buyers will be looking for good deals and assuming you’ve had Friday and Saturday to sell, too. Usually, unlike Santina’s sale, most Sunday sales are a continuation from the day before.

(pic provided by Lynda Hammond) Santina Harmon and her puppy Molly were busy at their recent Sunday garage sale bringing in around $200 by selling flower arrangements and other household goods.


################