How to organise a jumble sale

One person’s trash is another's treasure! Jumble sales are a fun way to help your friends, family and community have a grand clearout, while also helping us to make research happen.

Pick a venue
You need the venue to be big enough for different stalls and for people to be able to walk around these. Halls, local schools and community centres are good places to try.

Set up an online donation page
Through this, those who are unable to attend your event can still donate and hear your story and all about how the event went. You can even add a text donation code so that people who don’t have any change on them can donate to you!

Gather your goods
Whether it’s second hand clothes or artistic pieces you’ve crafted yourself, you’ll need to gather together as much stuff as possible to sell on the day. You could even ask local businesses to donate things for you to sell, to up your total.

Get your family and friends involved
You will need people to help you set up the event, collect and count money and people to run different stalls too.

Order your materials
We have a huge selection of materials that we can send you to help add some pink to your jumble sale. We have branded banners, balloons, posters and bunting and even more – just get in touch!

The legal bit
• Your safety is our number one priority – so we’ve put this little bit of info to keep you protected while organising your event. Please follow it!

• Insurance – check if the venue has insurance to cover your event or you may need to apply for public liability insurance.

• Risk assessment – check with the venue to see if they have a copy of their risk assessment and check whether they need you to complete one before the event.

• Food - if you are serving food at the event make sure to check for any dietary restrictions. Also look at the guidelines for food hygiene at www.food.gov.uk by searching for “charity events”.

Speak to a member of the team to find out more: community@breastcancernow.org / 020 7025 2402
Meet Mellissa

“I organise a yearly jumble sale to raise funds for Breast Cancer Now. I have done this since 2010, after being diagnosed in 2008 with breast cancer, at the age of 38. I have raised from £300 to over £1,000 with my jumble sales! They are a really enjoyable way to raise money.”

How long you’ll need

Allow at least 1-3 months to plan your event.

Allow around 6 hours for your event to take place, start to finish which includes setting up and taking down. Jumble sales on weekend mornings are very popular.

Mellissa’s top tips

- Use a local venue that’s easy to get to with all of your sale items – you might have one nearby that will let you use it for free!
- Check what equipment is supplied by your venue. Often tables are supplied by halls but you will want to check.
- Ask friends and family to help with the collections of items so you can get this done quickly.
- Advertise you need items and about the date of the event on social media, on shop windows, with friends and family or on local radio and newspapers.
- Set a date on a weekend day – you will get more people attending your jumble sale.
- Presale your items through social media – this helps raise funds before the day even begins.
- Ask your friends and family to help you on the day – free of charge!
- Don’t forget to find a weigh in centre for any left-over clothing – this will earn Breast Cancer Now extra cash.
- Make sure you put on fundraising games like ‘Find the prize in the clothing’, and ask people to pay to enter.
- A bake sale with further food and hot drinks on offer can be a great way to boost your fundraising on the day. Shopping is thirsty work!
- You can tell people to text to donate if they don’t have any change on them – always an issue now we’re all contactless!