

GARAGE STORAGE SOLUTIONS: HOW TO ORGANIZE YOUR GARAGE



Tired of Your Messy Garage?



Check out these simple tricks and garage storage solutions to organize your garage and create a useable space you can be proud of.

Plan & Prepare

As you prepare to organize your garage, set aside enough time to complete the project. If you don't have two full days to dedicate to organizing the garage, set a clock for 20 minutes and clean in short spurts.



Categorize Items & Group Contents

To clean up the mess, you'll have to start by making a bigger mess. You want your stuff to be easy to find and easy to use, so you're going to need to organize it.

Group things by how often they're used, who uses them, and what they're used for. Be sure to also identify which items you know you no longer want or need during this process.



Additional Tips:

- Put tools, seasonal decorations, yard equipment, recreational items, and so forth in separate piles.
- Pull everything out of its hiding place, and put it in an appropriate pile.
- Strongly consider ditching anything you haven't used in over a year (more on this later).
- Be sure to clean out any garbage, and sweep out the space to make it nice and clean.

Donate

For the items you no longer want or need, consider holding a yard sale. If a yard sale doesn't appeal to you, consider taking your unwanted tools and other items to a consignment or pawn shop to make a few extra bucks. Or, for the more humanitarian-minded, there's always donating to a worthy charity. Some of the best include:

- [United Way](#)
- [American Red Cross](#)
- [The Salvation Army](#)
- [Goodwill](#)
- [Big Brother Big Sister Foundation](#)



Consider Your Needs

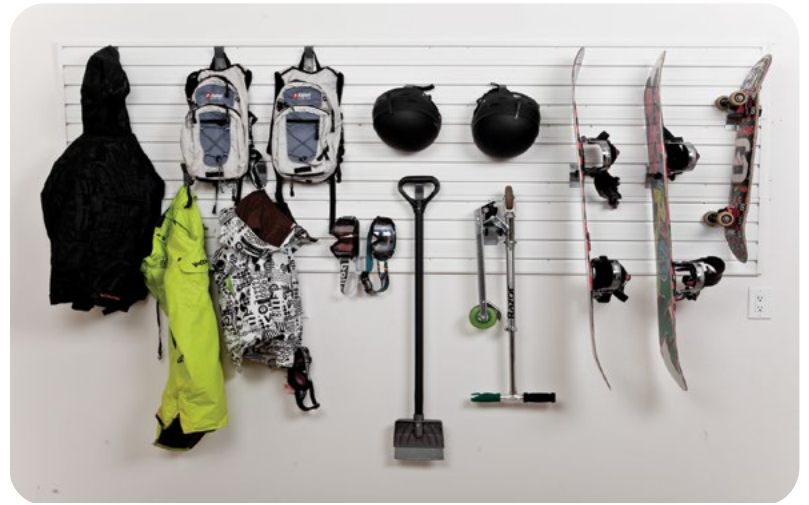
Consider the tools & items you need access to regularly and create a space for them in the easy to reach spots. Seasonal items should be stored in the areas less accessible.

Label everything (consider painting the cupboards with chalkboard paint to use for labeling that can be updated) and even write out where you'll put everything. Save it for later in case you need to find things.



Vertical Storing Solutions are Best

Take advantage of your vertical storage capability (including hanging up awkward items like bicycles—more on this next). Most garages have a lot of headroom, and utilizing this space will help you free up floor and wall space. That way, your garage can stay a garage, and isn't converted into a storage unit instead.



Categorize Items & Group Contents

While you're organizing your garage space, identify which items you know no longer want or need. For the other items, group tools, cords, equipment, and other items together.



Add Garage Storage Racks

You won't be able to store everything vertically, but you'll use the space best if you can get nearly everything off the floor. Your first weapon in this fight should be storage racks.

Additional Tips:

Install Cubby Hole Shelves

Sometimes shelves are the best storage method for items. Cubby holes are great for organizing because you can designate them to certain projects or people.

Kids especially love having their own cubby hole for their items. Adding a space specifically for children in the home can add value both for current homeowners, and for buyers down the line. If you have children in the home, label the cubby for them, and help them make it their own. This way, they'll be more likely to use their cubby, and your garage will stay more organized as a result.

- Overestimate your need for shelving, as you likely have more than you think you do (and are likely to accumulate more in the future).
- Don't be afraid to put money down for sturdy shelves if you have large and heavy things to store.
- Anchor the storage racks well.



Install Wall-Mounted Shelving Units

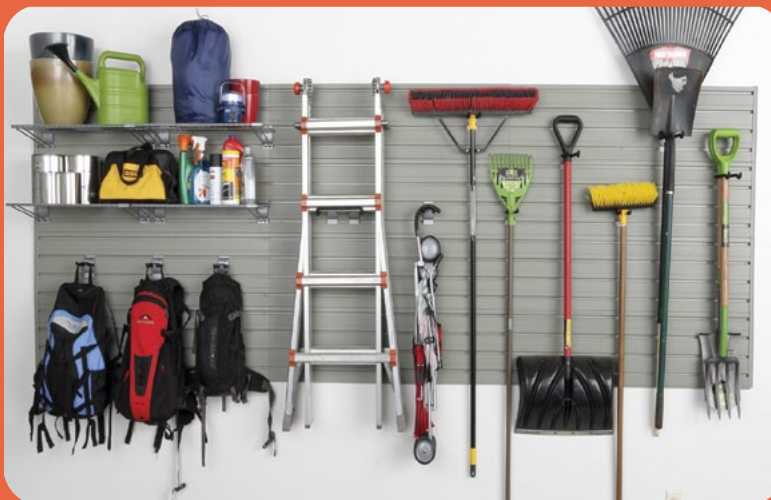


In order to make the most of your space, you'll need to get almost everything off of the floor, which means at some point, you're going to need to start adding things to the walls. Take measurements of your garage, so you know how much space you're dealing with. Once you have measurements, you can start planning out a shelving solution that will meet your needs. Then anchor the shelving units securely against the wall.

Install Ceiling Racks (Overhead Storage)

Ceiling racks are great for seasonal and bulky items you don't use as regularly. It keeps them out of the way but keeps them accessible for when the time comes.

Slat Walls for Rakes, Hoses, & Brooms



In addition to shelves and cubbies, slat walls can be very effective at maximizing your storage space. Slat walls have grooves where you can slide in pegs and hooks, allowing you to hang everything from brooms to hammers vertically. The best part about it, is these items are openly displayed, making them easy to find and easy to reach, so use it for tools you use most frequently.



Pull in Help

As you can see, when it comes to organizing your garage, there is a lot of work that goes into creating a space that is both stylish and functional. Depending on your needs and budget, you might want to consider hiring a professional remodel or pulling in friends to help you organize your garage.

Hang Bikes from the Ceiling

Caleb B at Maple Holistics suggests that if you're a cyclist, you may want to install a simple wall-mount for your bike or if you have enough height, a roof-mount to hang your bicycle upside-down. This is a simple way to save yourself some space without making it too difficult to reach your bike when you're ready to use it. Also, this will keep your bike out from underfoot, saving it from getting damaged.



Storage Bench Tips (Fold-Down Bench)

According to Lily Cameron at Fantastic Services, for a small garages or tight spaces, installing a folding workbench is an excellent way to add some extra workspace. You'll have these workstations when you're working on projects but you'll be able to fold them away for more car space.

Remember, organizing your garage is about making the best possible use of the space, and dual-purpose solutions like this are perfect for achieving that goal.



Schedule a Regular Reorganizing Date

Make organizing your garage a regular habit, so that each time you need to organize your work is minimal and not overwhelming. Pick a cycle of every two weeks or every month and mark your calendar. Plan something fun to do afterward to motivate yourself to finish the project.

Ready to design your dream garage? Check out [Flow Wall's Planning Tool](#) today for all your garage organization solutions.

