

Garage Checklist

By Nicole Nichols-West

☐ Storing

- ☐ Use waterproof plastic containers to store items in your garage.
- ☐ Make sure poisonous materials are stored in high shelving or in locked cabinets.
- ☐ Store any flammable materials, such as gasoline, away from any heat sources.
- ☐ Store tools in low traffic areas.
- ☐ Use sturdy hooks to hang equipment like bikes.
- ☐ Keep your tools well-sharpened and clean so that they are easy to use.
- ☐ Make sure the route in the garage to travel in and out is clear of tools and other equipment.

☐ Cleaning

- ☐ Create three categories: keep, donate, and toss and assign each item to a category.
- ☐ Contact local charities and arrange for a pickup of items to be donated.
- ☐ Sort and label the items you're keeping.
- ☐ Consider installing metal shelving.
- ☐ Regularly clean your garage.
- ☐ Make sure that the floor and other surfaces are clear of debris.
- ☐ Clean it up immediately any spilled chemicals.

☐ Safety

- ☐ Floor should be free of liquids or materials that may present a slipping hazard.
- ☐ Garage should be clear of cardboard, paper or sawdust that might become a fire hazard.
- ☐ Make sure there is a functioning fire extinguisher at hand.
- ☐ Avoid idling your car or using a grill inside your garage.
- ☐ Make sure your garage doors have safety mechanisms in place.
- ☐ Instal a sensor that will reverse the direction of the door if any object is underneath the garage door.
- ☐ The exit pathways should be clear and easily reached.