

## GARAGE STORAGE AND ORGANIZATION IDEAS

**Skill Level: BEGINNER** These how-to's are suitable for people who are new to DIY and who have a basic knowledge of tools. If you've painted a room or re-potted a plant, you can probably complete one of these projects by yourself in a few hours or less.

### ✓ MATERIALS

- Paper and Pencil—for planning
- Tape Measure
- Storage Shelves or Units
- Cabinetry—as needed
- Assembly Tools—per manufacturer
- Cleaning Supplies
- Storage Bins—as needed

If your garage has room for everything except a car, don't worry, you can organize a garage in just one weekend. You'll know exactly what you have and where it is.



### PREPARATION

**01 Before starting this project, visit Lowe's and check out all the different storage solutions available including:**

- Cabinetry
- Shelving and support brackets
- Storage bins and boxes
- Tool hanging systems
- Bicycle hangers

**02 It might help to sort through items outside of your garage, such as on your lawn or driveway. Just be sure to check the weather before you begin, and don't leave valuables unattended.**



### REVIEWING AND PLANNING

**01 Look through the garage to determine what items should or can be stored together, such as:**

- Gardening supplies and tools
- Sports and hobby gear
- Seasonal items like holiday decorations
- Household tools and hardware

**IMPORTANT**

As you organize your garage or other outbuilding, think "safety." Make sure that ladders are strong and safe before use. Be careful when accessing higher shelves. If you have questions, discuss the job with a Lowe's associate or call a professional for help.

### REVIEWING AND PLANNING (cont.)

- Automotive tools and supplies
- Paints and combustibles
- Garbage and recycling
  - **TIP:** When sorting through items to be discarded, make three groupings: Recycle, throw away, and donate.

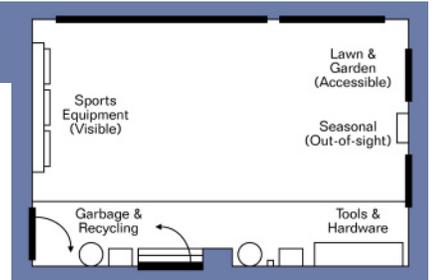


#### 02 Clean the garage.

- Wipe down the ceiling, walls, and floor with a broom, shop vacuum or clean rags.
  - **TIP:** If required, patch and/or paint the walls and ceiling.
  - **TIP:** Depending on condition and use, consider finishing the floor with a concrete sealant followed by concrete paint.

#### 03 Make a sketch of the clean garage and create storage zones that match what you have, what you expect to have, and the handiest location for the items. Include:

- Accessible storage
- Visible storage
- Out-of-sight storage



#### 04 Take measurements of your garage to help you when purchasing or building storage components as needed, referring to your plan.

## PUTTING THINGS IN THEIR PLACE

#### 01 If required, assemble storage units per manufacturer's instructions.

#### 02 Install storage units in zones following your plan.

##### ■ Lawn & Garden:

Most people use these tools frequently so it might be best to store them where you have easy access. Wall organization systems are handy and they help get tools off the floor, creating more storage space. You may also consider buying a garden shed and moving the yard tools and supplies there.



### PUTTING THINGS IN THEIR PLACE (cont.)

#### ■ Sports and Recreation:

Install one of the many types of shelving, from freestanding units to ones that mount on the wall. Plastic bins are great to keep shelves organized—clear bins will let you see what's inside. Specialized sports storage units are available at Lowe's that help organize shoes, balls, bats, and golf clubs. Bicycle hoists and hooks can be installed to keep bikes out of the way.



#### ■ Tools and Hardware:

Purchase a tool box or tool chest for all tools and organize tools by type, depending on how many you have. Make sure that tools are easy to see and access.



#### ■ Common Storage:

Install shelves, shelving units or cabinets that can store less-used items, like paint or automotive supplies. If children are in the home, consider locking cabinets for storing combustibles or tools that could be unsafe.

- **TIP:** Low cabinets can be multi-functional by adding a top for use as a workbench.

#### ■ Seasonal Storage:

Install shelving for holiday decorations, seasonal clothing and toys, and other less frequently used items. These are best placed on higher shelves that normally are unused.



#### ■ Trash and Recycling:

Include containers for trash and recycling. Stackable bins are useful for sorting recycled items. Make sure that trash and recycling are easily accessible from the house.

- **TIP:** A hand cart can save trips to the curb by wheeling stacked recycle bins at once.



Your garage is now clean and organized. If you're looking for other ways to improve your home, check out all the other how-to videos with printable instructions at [Lowe's.com/Videos](https://www.lowes.com/Videos).

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