

Making the Most of Non-Cash Charitable Donations

During the year, we all do some closet cleaning and take plastic bags or cardboard boxes of used clothing and household goods to local non-profit organizations or arrange for a truck to come to the home and pick up the items. If you itemize your deductions on your federal income tax return, those donations can be tax-dollar savers. To help you determine the value of your non-cash donations, here are some helpful hints:

Make a list of the donated property, being sure to make a separate list for each bag or box that is donated.

At the top of the list, write the name and address of the charity along with the date the donation was made.

Divide the list into several columns and complete as accurately as possible:

- Description of item
- Quantity (number of shirts, slacks, sweaters, etc)
- Condition of item (new, good, fair or poor)
- Fair market value at the time of the donation
- Date acquired and cost basis (if known)

The Internal Revenue Service allows a deduction for the fair market value at the time of the donation. That value can be determined by an appraisal, through a catalog or using thrift shop values.

Below is a list of various items that are usually available at the Salvation Army and Goodwill donation centers with a high-low range of values for items in good condition (means appliances are in working order and clothing or bedding items are clean and not torn). As always, please feel free to call the office and discuss your personal situation with regard to these and other non-cash charitable donations.

WOMEN'S CLOTHING		MEN'S CLOTHING		CHILDREN'S CLOTHING		FURNITURE	
Blouse	3-12	Belts/ties	3-8	Blouse/shirt	2-8	Chest	25-95
Bras/slips	1-6	Jacket	8-25	Boots	3-20	China cabinet	85-300
Coat	10-40	Overcoat	15-60	Jacket	3-25	Convertible sofa	85-300
Dress	4-19	Pajamas	2-8	Jeans	4-12	Dresser/mirror	20-100
Jacket	4-12	Raincoat	5-20	Slacks/skirts	2-8	Double bed with mattress	50-170
Nightgown/robe	4-12	Shirt	3-12	Shoes	3-9	Double mattress	25-50
Purses	2-20	Shoes	4-25	Snowsuit	4-19	End tables (2)	10-50
Slacks	4-12	Slacks	5-12	Sweater	3-8	Floor lamp	8-40
Shoes/boots	2-25	Sweater	3-12	Underwear	1-4	Folding bed	20-60
Suit	6-25	Suit	15-60			Kitchen cabinet	25-75
Sweater	3-15					Kitchen table	25-60
						Kitchen chair	3-10
						Rugs	20-90
						Single bed with mattress	35-100
						Single mattress	15-35
						Sofa	35-200
						Stuffed chair	25-90
						Waterbed frame	15-40
APPLIANCES		SPORTING GOODS		MISC.			
Dryer	45-90	Bicycle	15-65	Christmas tree	15-50		
Washer	50-125	Fishing rod	5-25	Riding mower	90-250		
Vacuum cleaner	20-60	Ice/roller skates	10-40	Lawn mower	10-100		
Gas stove	50-125	Pool table	20-75	Elec. Typewriter	75-200		
Electric stove	75-150	Sled	5-20	B/W television	25-60		
Air conditioner	20-90	Tennis racket	5-40	Color television	75-225		
				Sewing machine	15-75		
				Books/hardback	1-15		
				Books/paper	3-10		
				Board games	1-5		
				Trunk	5-70		
FURNITURE SET		DRY GOODS		BABY ITEMS			
Bedroom	75-850	Blanket	3-8	Crib/mattress	25-100		
Dining room	90-900	Bedsread	3-24	High chair	10-50		
Kitchen	35-170	Curtains	2-12	Playpen	15-30		
Waterbed	75-325	Drapes	7-40	Stroller	10-40		
		Pillows	2-8				
		Sheets	2-8				

Remember: these values are a guideline for those items you donate and are based on the condition of the item. Your list(s) and receipt(s) will not be attached to your tax return unless the aggregate total of the items exceeds \$500, but will be part of your records in the event your tax return is selected for audit.

Non-Cash Contribution Worksheet for Tax Year _____

A	B QTY.	C FMV	D TOTAL	E	F	G QTY.	H FMV	I TOTAL
LADIES CLOTHING					CHILDRENS CLOTHING			
Blouses					Blouses			
Bathrobes					Boots			
Boots					Coats			
Bathing suits					Dresses			
Coats					Jackets			
Dresses					Jeans/Pants			
Evening dresses					Snowsuits			
Fur coats					Shirts			
Handbags					Shoes			
Hats					Skirts			
Jeans/Slacks					Slacks			
Skirts					Sweaters			
Shoes								
Slips/bras								
Suits					MENS CLOTHING			
Sweaters								
					Coats			
DRY GOODS					Jackets			
Blankets					Jeans/Slacks			
Bedspreads					Shirts-Dress			
Curtains					Shirts-Polo			
Drapes					Shoes			
Pillows					Sport Jackets			
Sheets					Sweaters			
Throw rugs					Suits			
Towels					Ties/belts			
FURNITURE					HOUSEHOLD ITEMS			
Chairs/recliners					Bric-a-brac			
Love seats/sofas					Dishes			
Table & chairs					Glassware			
Other tables					Pots & pans			
Other chairs					Utensils			
Area rugs					Lamps			
Baby items:					Mirrors			
Cribs					Pictures			
High chairs					Sewing machines			
Playpens					Luggage			
Strollers					Toys & games			
					Books - hardback			
OTHER ITEMS					Books - paperback			
					Magazines			
					Computer			
					Printer			
Total column D					GARAGE ITEMS			
Total column I								
Grand total					Lawn mowers			
Lawn tools								
Date of donation:					Wheelbarrow			
Receipt attached ?					Lawn furniture			
Name & address					Gas grills			
of organization					Small tools			