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## Ebay thrift finds

As an Amazon Associate I earn from qualifying purchases. Fortunately, the problem of the best items to sell on eBay is a fairly easy one to handle. Are you ready for the answer? Here it is: The most profitable items to sell on eBay are the ones that you can find cheap and easy. While it may not be the answer you hoped for, it's true. In some places of the country, people make \$10k a month flipping thrift store items, in other areas you have to source from Ross, hit up yard sales, or become a regular on Craigslist. But no matter where you are, if you're wondering what to sell on eBay, think of what's easiest to source in your area! In my house, for example, there are abundant thrift shops and tons of rich people. For this reason, I find all the inventory I can handle from Goodwill, Savers, and Mom and pop thrift stores. Since this is quite common for resellers, I'll be focusing almost exclusively on the items used in this article. You can find them in tons of different places and you should be able to make decent money using what you learn here, no matter where in the world you are! I know that clothing sales are bread and butter from many eBayers stores. For this reason, the internet is full of lists that tell you a kind of clothing to buy for maximum profit. So if you're looking for one of these articles, you can find the big ones here and here. However, there are some of us who would rather give up eBay all together than dig through the rack after the rack of used clothing. Others probably don't sell clothes - but you simply want to branch out and find other things to sell. So this list is completely non-non-clothing items that we've sold on eBay! I didn't write this to be ultra-specific, but rather to give you different types of items to look for with specific examples that we sold. That's how you'd scroll through some of the examples that we've overturned recently, I don't think we're claiming that they all came from thriftstores. The problem is, everyone sources from thrift stores. If you want to find interesting hard goods, you need to branch out of your comfort zone and find some new sources. Yes, there are dozens of thrift store finds, but there are also items from flea markets, public auctions, antique malls, real estate/yard sales, Craigslist, and more! Finally, where they come from doesn't matter. Frequent as many places as possible and when you see them, you'll know! What are the simplest things to sell on eBay: Hardgoods vs Clothing The answer to this question is actually just a spin-off of our above answer. The easiest things to sell on eBay are the ones you can find in the So if you're just starting out and want to flip me easy to get going, read through our guide and then head straight to a thrift store to see what you can find! As far as the hardgoods vs. Clothing issue, have discussed this several times before on this site, but we'll say it again here for the accent: don't get sucked into Hardgoods vs Clothing One's no better. Taking advantage is better. Anything we can take advantage of, we sell. It happens to be that most of our dollar sales are non-clothing items. In fact, check out some of the following statistics from our eBay store: Our average selling price for clothing is \$24. Our ASP hardgoods hovers right around \$38. This is a bit skewed by the fact that we are willing to buy cheaper garments than hardgoods (clothing in general is easier to store and ship), but it still shows that there is a lot of money to be made! Hardgoods accounts for about 20% of our profits. Hardgoods usually sells faster and for more money. So instead of asking what clothing brands should be selling, start thinking instead, what are the best items to sell on eBay? You've probably heard that the market is saturated, everyone's sales are down, and eBay is dead. That's not true. What is true is that things are more competitive now and things that worked a few years ago are no longer working. However, this is no different from any other business. Times and markets change, and those who adapt survive. Even with the level of saturation the market has, I can go into a thrift store right now and find 100 things that are profitable within an hour or two. The problem is, profitable means very different things to different people. Some people are content buying garments for \$4 and selling them for \$10. Personally, I wouldn't even consider anything with such a poor profit margin. Large sales require the same amount of time to get and list small sales. So the real method of figuring out what to sell on eBay is to find that particular balance between: How much something costs+How much profit it will bring How much profit it will come how fast it will sell I usually put 20-30 things to flip on eBay in our cart when I thrift, but only end up buying 10 or so. The first thing we had to do was identify the minimum profit margin. During a working day on eBay, I need to deliver items that have sold, source product, list items and then put them in our inventory. All things considered, we can manage to list about 75 items per week constantly. Because we also have a \$200 profit per day target, we thought we had to profit around \$35 per item. If something doesn't meet that standard, back on the shelf goes. Usually, if we know that something will sell particularly quickly or is particularly cheap, we will make an exception. In the past, though, our house has been clogged with moderately profitable that we don't have time to list. We would always jump forward and list the more interesting and profitable things that we just found. So, lesson learned, our time is too limited to lose them on low-profit shenanigans. Small fruits turned out to be the sweetest. Maximum profit in minimum time! Scared Money Dont Make Money Unfortunately, for many people, fear of the unknown is one of the main reasons why it avoids selling non-clothing non-clothing eBay. If you are content and comfortable selling clothing, that is fine and dandy. But if you're a solo salesman determined to stop leaving thrift stores with just a few items, address a number of issues that we've heard when it comes to avoiding some of the best thrift store items to flip. There are too many brands or items to know and keep straight. It is easy to become overwhelmed by thousands of non-clothing articles lining shelves at second hand stores. The reason this is overwhelming is that sellers who have previously specialized in clothing are used to memorize brands and often find exactly the same piece of clothing again and again. If you bring this same mentality to the supply of non-clothing, you might think that you need to memorize a thousand different brands that are profitable – but this is not the case. Rather, a focus on the types of items that are profitable is much more effective. For example, I don't know any brand of grain mills, but since I know that they are expensive and resell well if I see something that resembles a grain mill I will look for. Because of this tactic I sold two grain mills in the last month, both found at thrift stores. The first sold for \$85 and the second sold for \$350. This is the focus of this BLOL list: types of items (not brands) to search for in thrift stores. While the details might be a little braver when it comes right down to it, everything ships exactly the same. You find a box that fits, put it in the box with some wrapping material and ship it. Using a larger box should not be intimidating. One of the biggest differences between selling clothing and hardgoods is that clothing buyers often expect, or even demand, free shipping. So many large clothing retailers that sell thousands of items of the day offer both free shipping and free returns, things that put the pinch on small eBay sellers. Hardgoods buyers, on the other hand, generally understand that the item can be large or heavy, and are usually more than willing to pay for shipping. As an example, I currently have a commercial quality juicer listed on eBay for \$1119.95+ shipping. I got a message from a man who was more than willing to pay the extravagant shipping costs to Israel if I was willing to ship it there. He couldn't get it us and so there was another option for him to get it, and he was willing to pay whatever it cost! (I haven't gotten shipping to Israel, however, and I'm sure it will soon sell to it). Hardgoods are harder to source as many thrift store have mainly clothing. This is generally true. However, it's only a problem if you're stuck on sourcing only at thrift stores. Hardgoods are actually much more profitable than clothing, if the source on Craigslist, Yardsales, Antique Malls, etc. Actually check out our list of alternative sourcing at Thrift Magazine if you really want to get really One of the best things about selling hardgoods is that you can source them pretty much anywhere if you're smart. If you want to sell t-shirts on eBay, they better be darn good t-shirts and you can be sure that you're not supplying them to Walmart. If you're supplying non-clothing, though, it doesn't make any difference to someone if the ink printer you're selling was on clearance from Walmart, on a table at a yard sale, or directly from Best Buy. The item becomes much more important than the brand and if you become adept at recognizing good deals, you will have an unlimited supply of non-clothing inventory to sell! So let's talk about some of the most profitable types of items that we pick up when we source: The best things to sell on eBay for profit 1. TONER/INK We find sealed ink and toner cartridges with amazing regularity at thrift stores. Selling printer ink on eBay can be a highly profitable business if you just be sure to do a few things right! In fact, we also buy the ink routine, which is on 75% off clearance from Walmart, Target, etc. as we can easily double our money on it. If it doesn't sound like an easy thing to resell on eBay, I don't know what it does! Things to be aware of: Don't buy open ink. You can never be sure of its condition. Sometimes, however, even if the box is open the ink itself can be sealed in an inner package. Be sure to search for specific ink you find, values can range from hundreds of dollars to almost worthless. The most valuable inks are usually drum cartridges for copiers or ink for photo printers. Selling expired ink on eBay: Most of the ink we find is printed with a back or bottom date and is expired. Ink is usually good for years after its expiration date and I've never had a problem selling it. We have always put "EXPIRAT" in the title and include the expiration date in the listing, as well as an disclaimer that we do not guarantee the ink to be fresh. 2. SOAR OCHELARS & PRESCRIPTION I wore my last pair of glasses for 4 years (and super-glued them back together 3 times) before finally admitting to me that I needed new ones. Buying glasses can be quite painful if you buy them just for you (my bill was around \$250 for a new pair of glasses and a spare pair of basics, not to mention the exam), but it can become almost impossible if you have multiple kids who need glasses as well. For many people in this situation, they turn to eBay! While selling something that needs a recipe is not allowed on eBay, there is a roaring trade in \* of glasses because they can be sold/purchased without a prescription. Almost all frames of glasses worth selling will have both the brand name as well as a style name/number somewhere on the frame (usually on the inside of an eye piece). Research specific style on eBay almost always yields results and you can see how much you are currently selling for. Nothing over \$30 seems like a useful thing to flip on eBay! Remove Remove Removing lenses before listing a pair of glasses is absolutely necessary (there are YouTube videos that will help you if you are lost on how to do this). Some sellers take photos with lenses in, but explicitly state in the description that listing is only for non-prescription frames. Do yourself a favor – play it safe and just remove the lenses. 3. Remote remotes are cheap dirt to buy from thrift stores and rank among the simplest things to sell on eBay! Usually we find remote controls for \$1 or less and have them sold for up to \$80 apiece! Quick Tips: The most valuable remote controls are often remote controls for sound systems, programmable TV remotes/controls, and gaming system remotes. VCR remotes are rarely worth selling on their own, but we still pick them up regularly. Why is that? Well, if you ever sell VCR's (or any electronic media), you can get a much better price by including the original remote. So we have a stock of remote controls, and when we find a VCR, we go through our inventory and we can usually find the right one! The only remotes we don't approach are the cable/dish remotes. They are seriously... and virtually worthless. This may be a bit – but be sure to search for any vintage remotes you will find with Asian sounding names: Nakanichi, Sansui, Onkyo, etc. The remote controls can be tested with a smart phone and listed in less than 5 minutes. Watch this video to find out how! 4. VINTAGE MUSIC PLAYERS Vintage music players are often heavily reduced to thrift stores because ... Seriously... Who wants them? Well, apparently, a lot of people! Many collectors turn to eBay because it is one of the best places to find the right players for the media of the date. This made electronic flipping on eBay a hot topic, but if you know what you're doing, there's still space on the market! The second image on the left, for example, shows an Ampex roll to Reel Player. At the time I found it, there were none available on eBay and I was able to sell it for over \$400 in less than a week! Don't be scared here because of the high transport costs. Buyers understand that these are heavy items and will pay nicely for them to be packed well. Also be sure to watch for portable tape payers, especially those still sealed in the package. The new Sony type player package cost me an entire \$2.00 and I accepted a best offer of \$105+ shipping less than an hour after listing. When we're out thrifting, we're always sure to have some bands and VHS with us so we can test everything we run over. If you don't have any support you (or can't find one at the thrift store to use), at least connect the drive in and run through all the buttons. If there are fobs, then we'll give the car a permit. There are so many other things out there to sell that it is very rarely worth repairing or selling electronics for parts. 5. CALCULATOR MARKETS Competition is often fierce when it comes to electronics at thrift stores. At most of our local thrift stores, there is a hardcore group of grubbers who seriously around all day waiting for new electronic carts to be wheeled out (we call these vultures people...). Don't be discouraged, however, just because someone is dedicated doesn't mean they're actually good at what they do. The vultures in our place seem to have a very specific appetite, because we usually follow them and find amazing vintage electronics that they have completely passed. In my selling years, I have also found that the best things to sell on eBay for profit are things that interest you or knowledgeable about. If you are not interested in computer parts, give them a permit! Things to look for: Computers (obviously) – If I see a computer with a sticker on it that shows it is/has been running Windows 7 or newer and has at least 4GB of RAM, I'll usually log in and see if I can boot it up. This is how I found both my working computer and desktop home (as well as monitors for \$5 apiece...). Keyboards – Keep a special eye for apple keyboards, vintage mechanical keyboards, or any kind of specialty keyboards (those with touch pads, roller balls, additional media controls, etc.) Speakers – Although we always hope to find Bose speakers, we usually thank ourselves for any other type of media speakers that we can find in pairs. Speakers from computer brands (Corsair, Dell, etc.) do well if you can find the full set. Wifi Routers - Routers, especially new ones in the box, are easy to find at almost every store we frequent. We usually don't do any testing beyond connecting them and pressing the factory reset button and we didn't run into any problems. 6. DAYPACKS / RUCSACS RUCSALES, especially vintage ones, fall into our bread and butter category. While everyone is rushing for (and scrabbles over) fake and worn-out purses, we are calmly digging through shelves for backpacks and pulling in huge profits! As with everything else on eBay, sell unique. It is quite easy to spot bags that seem out of place among the multitude of worn school backpacks in thrift stores. Valuable Packages We're Looking for: Hiking Backpacks Do Very Well For Us. Avoid packages with an outer metal frame because they are older, not valuable, and a huge pain to the ship. Backpacks for events. Definitely avoid packages from the 2013 Nexiom Conference in Salt Lake City or other similar things that no one wants to identify with. However, we will grab packages from concerts, some charities, Olympics, diving trainings, etc. If anyone wishes they were there, maybe having your backpack is the next best thing! Vintage Jansport backpacks are of great note here. We find vintage leather/bottom suede packs constantly for \$1-2 and sell them for up to \$50! 7. BLANK MEDIA Blank Media is probably one of the most profitable things to sell on eBay that no one seems to know about. I've just included pictures of two examples that have sold out recently, but any type of empty media sells. Empty DVDs, mini CDs, tapes, and even film can bring a good return on your investment. Your. I thrift, we usually have price points, which are an automatic buy for any empty media. For example, if we see a VHS for \$1 or less we will buy. So are empty boxes under \$0.50. Then we save them until we have enough to make a decent batch and then sell them together. \$1 items that sell for \$5 are not worth our time, but a \$7 dollar item that sells for \$35? All day, every day. Although it IS the same return on investment, the time required is much less than a single set of images, a list and a transport is required. VHS band prices are usually quite consistent, regardless of age (a band is a band, I think), but empty box prices vary wildly. Keep a special eye open for special edition bands, bands for a certain type of music, from a certain era, etc. The weirder or more specific, the better. 8. MUSIC VECHÉ ON OUT-OF-DATE MEDIA I've never had a classic car with 8-track player, but if I did, you can bet your ass I would look on eBay for music to stick in it. It should not be surprising that many people turn to eBay – for the sake of collecting, and for simple nostalgia. In fact, you've probably been told by Your Aunt Sally that Elvis's records from her younger days are worth hundreds of dollars on eBay... Well, they're not... but there are a lot of vintage media and records that can bring very good money. What to avoid: 95% of the boxes and recordings from thrift stores are country, gospel, or hippie relaxing music. If you're wondering what to sell on eBay, they're not her. While there are possibly a few good pieces mixed in, unless you want to spend all your time digging through music for a few-and-away finds, take our advice and give everything from these genres a pass. Look for these instead: Hard Rock & Metal – These are some of the most challenging genres to find in vintage media. But let's face it, the guy from 72 Mustang trying to relive his high school days would much rather pay \$300 for an Iron Night 8-track than \$4 for an Abba one (and yes, there are realistic prices). Player Piano Rolls - 3 times I came across large roller boxes for vintage Player Pianos. While there is rarely worth selling individually, we have gotten excellent money from selling them in batches. Signed/Autographed Kids – Much more common than you think, almost everything that is signed by the band/artist is worth lifting. – The end of free access – The rest of this eBook is only available to those who are serious about building their eBay business. 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