GET THE LOOK: Vintage Garden Décor

CASUAL ELEGANCE, PERSONAL STYLE

Romantic Homes

Flea Market Special

Our Annual Guide for Treasure Hunters

Survival Tips from the Pros

Visit the Country’s Best Vintage Shows
Plan your shopping excursions with this list of vintage and antiques markets held around the country.

**GOAT HILL FAIR | CALIFORNIA |**
gothillfair.com
Upcoming Events: May 14–15 and Nov. 12–13
Location: Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds in Watsonville
Nearly 100 vendors pack this indoor market, offering vintage, antique, repurposed and handmade pieces. “The offerings at Goat Hill Fair are gathered, curated and styled vintage and antique items,” says Ralph Delgado Mecie, assistant to show founder and producer Cyndi Garofalo. “Our guests will find everything from small trinkets to grandly large items. One can find personal effects and adornments, such as jewelry and clothes. Shoppers will always find home decor, show-stopping pieces and the very utilitarian... mainstays.”

**THE GREAT JUNK HUNT | WASHINGTON |**
thegreatjunkhunt.com
Upcoming Events: April 22–23 and Nov. 18–19
Location: Washington State Fairgrounds in Puyallup
The Funky Junk Sisters produce markets held throughout the year in Washington, offering customers a mix of vintage, antique, retro, salvaged and handmade items, and plenty of design inspiration. “Our customers don’t mind a little dirt or rust, as a matter of fact, they prefer it,” says Linda Albers, one of The Funky Junk Sisters. “They love repurposed, upcycled and one-of-a-kind finds. Our customers want to be different and don’t want to fill their houses with products purchased at the mall.”

**HOBNOB MARKET | ILLINOIS |**
hobnobmarket.com
Upcoming Events: May 6–7
Location: at Kennekuk County Park in Danville
Sept. 9–10
Location: Effingham County Fairgrounds in Altamont
Nov. 18–19 at the
Location: Peoria Civic Center in Peoria
Jury-selected vendor booths fill the popular Hobnob Market events, selling items to vintage-loving customers. “[We sell] the most mouthwatering vintage finds plus wonderfully imaginative handmade goods,” says Holly Snelling, owner. “The Hobnob is filled with fabulous creative displays that make each booth feel like a stand-alone shop. Now imagine row after row of crazy-good shops all in one place? Heaven.”

**JUNKTOBERFEST | NEBRASKA |**
junktoberfest.com
Upcoming Events: May 21–22 and Nov. 21–22
Location: Old Southroad’s Mall in Bellevue; October dates to be announced for the Red Willow County Fairgrounds in McCook
Head to Junktoberfest for a mix of vintage, antique and one-of-a-kind home decor and jewelry, plus a sampling of some farm-fresh junk. “Our vendors are artists and hunters,” says Courtney Pollmann, event coordinator. “We have artists who build and create custom furniture pieces, unique jewelry and accessories, artwork and decor, and we have hunters who search every sale, farmhouse and estate that they come in contact with to find those one-of-a-kind vintage and antique pieces that will blow you away and create a fantastic conversation piece for your home.”

**TIP:**
“Come with an idea of what you are looking for. It can be overwhelming if you don’t know what you want, but having something in mind helps you focus.” – Linda Radtke, Randolph Street Market

**TIP:**
“Be ready to measure. Always carry a measuring tape; it’s helpful if you’re looking for a piece to fit a certain spot.” – Linda Albers, The Great Junk Hunt

TIP: By Devin Smith

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**Flea Markets**

**LONG BEACH ANTIQUE MARKET**

**Upcoming Events:**
Shows held the third Sunday of every month at Veterans Stadium in Long Beach, with special sales on fifth Sundays

This monthly event has been attracting a wide variety of designers, collectors and bargain hunters for more than 30 years. "The market has over 800 sellers featuring a wide variety of vintage, antique and collectibles including china, glassware, linens, furniture, lighting, garden décor, kitchen collectibles, primitives, pottery, art, rugs, sterling, porcelain and much more," report co-promoters Donald and Lynn Moger. "Styles range from primitives, pottery, art, rugs, sterling, porcelain and much more," says Ashley Baronfeld, marketing, sales and talent-booking manager. "While the flea market has its everyday bargains, you never know what you might stumble across, treasures like a crystal vase or an artistic lamp, or a first-edition book …"

**REMNANTS OF THE PAST**

**Upcoming Events:** April 15–16

Location: Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton

Nov. 11–12 Location: Earl Warren Fairgrounds in Santa Barbara

This market offers a variety of farmhouse-chic, European, cottage-style, industrial and handmade pieces. "I hand-select each of my vendors," says Judy Watkins, founder. "I look for vendors that have an eye for their niche of what they love; they think outside of the box with their displays, and it shows. Some of the vendors love linen, for example, [and] they will bring a linen chair but then put their own take on this style, whether it be a bright pillow, mix it with mid-century or make it completely romantic."
**Flea Markets**

**TRADING POST 1908 | CALIFORNIA, NEVADA | tradingpost1908.com**

**Upcoming Events:**
- June 26

**Location:**
- Summerfest in Fountain Valley
- World Market Center in Las Vegas

This juried market features a range of antique, vintage and handmade items, from home decor to jewelry and collectibles. “...all vendors are hand-selected based on the products they will be selling,” report co-owners Kelly Rogers and Jennifer Kersner. “We take into careful consideration vendors based on product variety, originality and quality of goods that best represent the intended feel of Trading Post 1908 Antique, Vintage and Handmade Market.”

**TIP:**
“Take a backpack, large tote or cart so that you can easily carry around your purchases.”
- Kelly Rogers and Jennifer Kersner, Trading Post 1908

**THE VINTAGE WHITES MARKET | COLORADO, MISSOURI, MONTANA, UTAH | thevintagewhitesmarket.com**

**Upcoming Events:**
- July 2
  - Location: Somers, Montana
- Aug. 27
  - Location: Kansas City, Missouri
- Nov. 12
  - Location: Kalispell, Montana

This market caters to shoppers looking for the latest vintage trends, and offers live music, food, a fashion show, activities for kids, classes and demonstrations, fresh-cut flowers and a photo booth. “We source vendors from in-state and out-of-state,” says Jana Roach, co-owner. “They are carefully handpicked to create a unique, budget-friendly shopping experience that you won’t find anywhere else.”

**TIP:**
“Bring cash (small bills are always a great relief). Not all shows have an ATM available. Feel all vendors take cash or credit.”
- Courtney Pollmann, Junktoberfest

**ZURKO’S MIDWEST PROMOTIONS | ILLINOIS, MICHIGAN, WISCONSIN | zurkopromotions.com**

**Upcoming Events:**
- Sundays, April through October

**Location:**
- Shawano County Fairgrounds in Shawano, Wisconsin
- Lake County Fairgrounds in Grayslake, Illinois
- DuPage County Fairgrounds in Wheaton, Illinois

Zurko’s has been promoting a wide range of events in the Midwest for the past 46 years, including vintage and antiques markets, flea markets, specialty markets for music and postcards, car shows, Civil War shows and auctions. “Customers should come to our shows to find treasures and have fun,” says Robert Zurko, president and CEO. “The true fun is in the hunt.”

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- Courtney Pollmann, Junktoberfest
Best in Show
Fill your shopping cart with these hot flea-market finds.

Written and photographed by Devlin Smith
Flea Markets are a great place to find unique and interesting pieces for your home. You can also discover the latest design and styling trends by seeing what pieces are filling booths and being carted through the aisles. We spoke with flea-market insiders to discover this year’s biggest trends. Take note and be prepared to score some hot deals.

Bakeware

These vibrantly colored and patterned pieces can easily transport you back to childhood times spent helping out in the kitchen. Flea-market shoppers are using vintage bakeware for decor and to cook and serve food. “The quality of the vintage pieces is so much better than what you see in today’s retail stores,” says Patricia Galavan, a flea-market vendor.

Chalkboards

This charming DIY style is still a hit with flea-market shoppers. “They are interactive, easy to change and fun to have in your home. What’s not to love?” says Patty Duffner, owner of Foo Foo La La (foofoolala.com), which just began selling at flea markets. Foo Foo La La’s chalkboards are framed in reclaimed materials, and customers use the pieces throughout their homes, including in their kitchens and children’s rooms.

Aged Pieces

Metal, leather and wood pieces clearly showing their age are catching the attention of flea-market shoppers. “There is something comforting about a well-worn rusty shovel—not fancy—but it reminds us that there was a lot of life and memories attached to it,” says Gaye Penny of Vintage Rhodes (on Instagram @vintage Rhodes), who sells at flea markets in Southern California and at Country Roads Antiques & Gardens in Orange, California. “We like to be reminded of these things.”

Matt Devaul of mm d antiques (on Facebook as mm d antiques) in Orange, California, agrees that it’s the feeling that draws customers to these items. “It’s like an old pair of denim jeans and a leather belt, boots or T-shirt you have had for years,” he says. “It just feels good to be surrounded by old, comfortable, used stuff.”

Repurposed Furnishings

Vintage furnishings are finding new life thanks to the ingenuity of flea-market vendors, who are making updates ranging from sanding and stripping, to reupholstering, repainting and decoupaging. “We turned an old radio into a storage unit,” says Melissa Pineda of Artisan Antique Alley (on Facebook as Artisan Antique Alley), who’s been selling at flea markets for six years. “We have painted a dresser and decoupaged an Eiffel Tower. Some pieces just call out for something fresh, and customers are savvy and can appreciate an inventive repurpose.”

Tip:

“…the time to buy is when you see it. If you wait to find one cheaper, you may miss out. So it’s always good to have done some research before you go shopping to know exactly what you should expect to pay.”

— Patricia Galavan
Ladders

Vintage wooden ladders are finding new life as home decor. “I can’t find enough of these,” says Julie Perez of The Warped Table (on Facebook and Instagram as The Warped Table), who sells at The Rose Bowl Flea Market. “Customers use them to hang blankets on or towels in the bathroom. They are fun to hang buckets or baskets or even dried flowers.”

Signs

Vintage wooden and metal signs, and signs made from vintage materials, are being used to add rustic charm to homes. Kelly and Cameron Early make vintage-style wooden signs from new and reclaimed materials that they sell at flea markets through their company EarlyHouse Mercantile (on Facebook as EarlyHouse Mercantile). Kelly suggests, “Older wood, hand-painted lettering, nail holes and other marks make signs perfectly perfect.”

EDITOR’S Picks

Find room in your cart for these fun finds.

1. BENCHES These small wooden benches are a must-get with rustic charm and a variety of uses.

2. PICTURE FRAMES Chippy and repurposed wood frames provide great decor options, dressing up chalkboards, mirrors, signs and pictures, or freshening up walls.

3. LETTER TRAYS A fun display option for jewelry collections, these trays definitely attract shoppers.

4. VINTAGE PHOTOGRAPHS Black-and-white photography continues to draw collectors eager to purchase everything from vacation shots to candid family portraits.

5. SCALES Kitchen scales have amassed a dedicated following, but aren’t the only design worth investigating. A piece like this vintage baby scale will make any collection stand apart.

6. TRAYS Vintage serving trays are a flea-market mainstay, with midcentury TV trays becoming the latest hot find.

7. CONTAINERS Skip the plastic bins, and turn to these vintage baskets, cans, pails and carts to stylishly meet your storage needs.

8. WINDOWS These rustic salvage pieces add charm to homes and gardens, updated with painted sayings, incorporated with chalkboards or collected into artful wall hangings.

9. METAL PIECES With farmhouse, industrial and midcentury styles growing in popularity, metal decor and accessories are in demand.