# Decluttering household items can boost UK home sales by up to £85,000, experts reveal



A UK property expert from Rainbow Rubbish, collaborating with specialists Matt Lanninge and Heath Alexander-Bew from Alan Boswell Group, has revealed that common household items can sharply decrease a home's sale value, sometimes by as much as £85,000. According to their findings, clutter remains the primary culprit in deterring potential buyers, with an emphasis that decluttering stands as one of the most potent ways to enhance a property's appeal.

Among the specific items identified, tools top the list as significant detractors when accumulated excessively. Book collections follow closely, suggesting that while books may enrich a home’s character, too many can create an impression of disarray. Collectibles also fall into this category, with the experts cautioning homeowners against overaccumulating them. Newspapers, particularly old and outdated ones, are similarly flagged for removal, alongside children’s toys, which require careful organisation to avoid the impression of chaos. Lastly, kitchenware, such as pots and pans left out, can diminish the perceived value of the home. Lanninge highlighted how such clutter can rapidly accumulate in hidden spaces like garages and sheds, ultimately reducing a property's market appeal.

This assessment aligns with broader expert advice on the importance of decluttering and staging when preparing homes for sale. Liv Conlon, a property staging business owner known for furnishing hundreds of homes annually, underscores that summer could offer a boost in buyer interest and property prices, but stresses that decluttering and minor, budget-friendly adjustments are key to achieving a successful sale. Conlon advocates simple seasonal swaps—lighter textiles, colourful outdoor-style tableware, and fresh or quality faux flowers—to create a welcoming and summery atmosphere that rivals costly renovations.

Moreover, her staging tips include altering home scents to match the season and strategically using mirrors to amplify natural light, which can all contribute to making a property more attractive to prospective buyers. These affordable strategies showcase how small but thoughtful changes can significantly influence the home's marketability.

Supporting this viewpoint, additional home organisation and decluttering advice emphasizes the removal of often-overlooked items that detract from value and appeal. Sources highlight common clutter contributors such as broken or mismatched dishes, outdated carpeting, piles of unnecessary paperwork, and unused appliances. The recommendation across numerous expert lists is to systematically clear out expired food, old magazines, unused electronics, and excess furniture, creating a cleaner, simpler environment that feels more spacious and inviting.

Taking these insights into consideration, sellers looking to maximise their home's sale price should prioritise decluttering in every corner—from living rooms and kitchens to garages and children's play areas. Reducing household clutter not only cleans the physical space but also helps potential buyers envision living there themselves, which is crucial in a competitive market.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-15018083/Property-expert-everyday-item-reduce-homes-value-85-000.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-15018083/Property-expert-everyday-item-reduce-homes-value-85-000.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)
* Paragraph 3 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-15018083/Property-expert-everyday-item-reduce-homes-value-85-000.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[7]](https://www.bairdwarner.com/blog/2021/07/21/household-items-get-rid-of-before-sale/)
* Paragraph 4 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-15018083/Property-expert-everyday-item-reduce-homes-value-85-000.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)
* Paragraph 5 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-15018083/Property-expert-everyday-item-reduce-homes-value-85-000.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)
* Paragraph 6 – [[2]](https://www.bigblogofgardening.com/15-household-items-youre-hoarding-that-decrease-your-homes-value/), [[3]](https://snappyliving.com/decluttering-checklist/), [[4]](https://simplysustainablelifestyle.com/decluttering-tips-and-tricks/), [[5]](https://www.becomingminimalist.com/101-physical-things-that-can-be-reduced-in-your-home/comment-page-8/), [[6]](https://shopping.yahoo.com/home-garden/cleaning/articles/15-items-cluttering-home-toss-120003256.html), [[7]](https://www.bairdwarner.com/blog/2021/07/21/household-items-get-rid-of-before-sale/)

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-15018083/Property-expert-everyday-item-reduce-homes-value-85-000.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.bigblogofgardening.com/15-household-items-youre-hoarding-that-decrease-your-homes-value/> - This article discusses 15 household items that can decrease a home's value, including broken or mismatched dishes, unnecessary paperwork, and old, outdated carpeting. It advises homeowners to assess and declutter these items to enhance their home's appeal and value.
3. <https://snappyliving.com/decluttering-checklist/> - An extensive decluttering checklist covering various rooms in the house, such as the living room, bedroom, kitchen, bathroom, home office, and closets. It lists items to consider removing, including old magazines, unused electronics, expired food, and unnecessary office supplies, to create a more organised and appealing living space.
4. <https://simplysustainablelifestyle.com/decluttering-tips-and-tricks/> - Provides decluttering tips and tricks for different areas of the home, including the kitchen, electronics and media, kids' items, and hobby and sports equipment. It suggests removing items like cracked coffee mugs, old DVDs, unused toys, and excess sports equipment to create a more streamlined and functional living environment.
5. <https://www.becomingminimalist.com/101-physical-things-that-can-be-reduced-in-your-home/comment-page-8/> - Offers a comprehensive list of 101 physical items to consider reducing in your home, such as kitchen glassware, cookbooks, kitchen gadgets, and kitchen appliances. It encourages homeowners to evaluate and declutter these items to simplify their living space and improve overall organisation.
6. <https://shopping.yahoo.com/home-garden/cleaning/articles/15-items-cluttering-home-toss-120003256.html> - Highlights 15 items that contribute to household clutter and should be discarded, including old or unused kitchen appliances and kitchenware, unused or unwanted artwork, old magazines and newspapers, clothes no longer worn, and excess furniture. It provides practical advice on how to handle these items to maintain a tidy and organised home.
7. <https://www.bairdwarner.com/blog/2021/07/21/household-items-get-rid-of-before-sale/> - Discusses household items to remove before selling a home, such as paperwork and other household clutter, unused outdoor items, excess garage gear, and taste-specific artwork and decor. It emphasises the importance of decluttering to make the home more appealing to potential buyers and to protect personal information.