



Donation Guidelines

Making Your Donations Go Further

When residents donate unusable or hazardous goods to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, the cost to properly dispose of these items reduces funding that could otherwise support our efforts in caring for individuals and families in need. By following a few easy guidelines you can make your donation go farther to benefit the life of another.

- **Questioning your Donation? Check with us before donating.** We are happy to discuss what you have to donate and decide if it matches our needs.
 - In general, all donated items should be **gently-used, clean, and in working condition.**
 - Clothing should be washed or dry-cleaned. Remove lint and pet hair, fold neatly, and place in bags.
 - Store space can be limited, so consider donating **seasonal items at the right times.** It is much easier to sell Christmas Trees in November than in February.
 - Furniture should be in good condition. It must be structurally sound and have no stains, rips, or tears.
 - Some items may be **unsafe to reuse** (for example, a toy that has been recalled, a damaged bike helmet, or wood painted with lead based paint). Electrical items; sports, medical and exercise equipment; and children's goods should all be examined carefully and tested before donating. [The Consumers' Product Safety Commission](#) is a good place to check on product safety issues.
 - **If your donation is electronics, small appliances and battery-operated items make sure they work.** We don't always have volunteers available to repair these items. If you donate a broken item, it can be expensive for SVdP to properly dispose of it.
 - **SVdP cannot accept household hazardous waste items** like cleaners, fluorescent lamps, or paints.
 - **Other Donations not accepted:** Tires, paint, pianos or organs not in good working order, fiberglass bath tubs and showers, porcelain commodes and sinks, waterbeds, built-in appliances, microwaves, press board furniture, non-working TV's, console stereos, encyclopedias, ceiling fans or light fixtures, wet or soiled clothing, and wet, soiled, ripped or torn upholstery pieces or bedding. Playpens, child safety seats, unframed glass/mirrors, wire hangers, typewriters/word processors, carpet or padding, windows, doors, or screens, drapery rods and blinds.
- All donations must be suitable for a friend in need's self-sufficiency or resale.**

SVdP Donations Coordinator 713-862-2605