

No's and Nevers

Each week Cloud 9 scopes out available floor space and produces a list of items we will not be accepting the following week. The list is posted behind the front counter and listed on our website. In most cases it will be updated the day before your consignment appointment. We do however reserve the right to refuse any item for any reason. Jewelry must be approved by the manager. Items that are wrinkled will be charged a \$1.00 steaming fee.

The following is a list of items we never consign.

Battery Operated Games
Bed Pillows
Bicycles
Bowling Balls
Cameras & Camera Equip.
Computers & Computer Related Items
Copy Machines
Curling irons
Curtain rods
Electric blankets
Electric razors
Electronic items
Exercise equipment
Fireplace screens insert kind
Furs of any kind
Hanging light fixtures with multi parts
Hot air popcorn poppers
Inflatable items
Large appliances
Large table lamps
Leather clothing
Macrame items
Microwave ovens
Porcelain & fiberglass kitchen & bath fixtures
Records, tapes, cd's video tapes
Rugs over 6x8 feet
Screen doors
Skate boards
Skis and Ski Boots
Small appliances that plug into car cigarette lighters
Sofas
Sound systems
Tape recorders
Telephones of all kinds
Television sets
Tires
Toilet seats or covers
Toy guns
Trampolines
VCRs & VHS video
Wedding & bridesmaid dresses
Window shades & blinds

Visit our website to download consignment lists, never lists and other items as well as to keep up on the latest news.



Pricing

We have had a lot of feedback from customers about pricing especially in the kitchen area. Review the circulars in the Sunday paper or take a shopping trip to Costco, Target, Walmart and others, Check out the bargains for **brand new** items. Cloud Customers don't like to pay more than retail for items. Why get something used when you can get it packaged new somewhere else for a comparable price and possibly with a warranty??

Holiday Goods

Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Valentines, Easter, 4th of July, and others. Holiday Goods have a shorter markdown period. Christmas items will be marked to 50% off the First of December and will be donated if not picked up, our last day open before the holiday. Other holidays, the items will be marked down to 50% off the day before the holiday and will be kept for 5 days after the holiday. They will be donated elsewhere if not picked up before that time.

Current Commission Schedule

Cloud 9 's commission is 50% for price points \$1.50 up to \$3.25 (50% to the consigner); 39% for price points \$3.75 thru \$9.00 (61% to the consigner); 36% for price points \$10.50 thru \$39.00(64% to the consigner) and 22% for price points \$40.00 and above (78% going to the consigner).

How to Begin Consigning

compliments of ConsignmentShops.com

For those interested in consigning, but unsure of how to begin, the following might help you get a few things together and get started. As the consignor, you need to prepare your items for consignment so that you get the most out of your experience. The same preparation should be taken if you are consigning a high chair or a tuxedo, an antique ring or a dining room set.

First-timers should bring no more than 10 items to keep the initial meeting short. The person accepting your consignment will look over each piece for "sale-ability." Don't go in expecting all your items to be accepted for consignment. Shops will only accept for sale what their clientele will buy. The store's personnel will know what has "sale-ability" in their shop and what does not. You can always try a second shop with the items that weren't accepted. Not all shops have the same requirements or the same purchasing clientele.

Most shops accept only current styles for consignment. Trendy merchandise that is more than

two-years old may not be in style and, therefore, not accepted for consignment. Traditional items will have a longer selling life. Use your best judgment when selecting items for consignment. Consider reading "The Keepers, The Sleepers & The Weepers" for more information.

Cleanliness of your items is a **MUST**. Requiring dry-cleaning will depend on the store. However, preparing your items by laundering or spot cleaning can make a big difference. Original price tags and cleaning tags should be left on the items when possible. Clothing should be pressed and brought in on hangers to keep them wrinkle free to avoid pressing or preparation fees.

Consign seasonally. Your plan as a consignor is to get to the best selling price for your merchandise. For instance, coats don't sell well in June and sandals don't sell well in November. If the shop you are choosing marks down their inventory every 30 days, you need to be even more selective in your timing when bringing in your merchandise. Not all shops use the mark down method in their stores.

Shoes, handbags, jewelry, knickknacks, equipment, furniture and miscellaneous items should be clean and dust free. The price you will receive for your items depends on the shape they are in at first glance, so, spruce them up before you consign. Unsure if an item is "sale-able?" Bring it in and let the shop decide.

Before you pack-up and drop-in on an unsuspecting shop owner, give your local shop a call. Ask if appointments are required, if they have any standard requirements, consignment fees or if they have a minimum or maximum amount of items consignable at one time. Payment schedules and percentages shared can be discussed with each shop at the time of consignment.

That's all there is to it. It's that easy.

For more information read How to consign Furniture and Antiques

The Keepers, The Sleepers & The Weepers!

compliments of ConsignmentShops.com

The most common grumbling among friends in your neighborhood consignment shop is the anticipation of cleaning a closet. No one looks forward to this job; therefore, it is forever looming over our heads. It is usually an enormous undertaking and can be a big waste of time if you're not good at parting with your things. Well, this article is for Pack Rats everywhere,

and, by the way, shop owners LOVE PACK RATS. But let's not get off the track and let's get to some real closet cleaning. To the sentimental, I apologize in advance for my ruthlessness in forcing you to throw away those spandex dresses you wore in the '80's, but they just got to go!

There are a few steps in purging a closet and they don't have to be done all in one day. Sometimes we don't get to the closet because we convince ourselves that it is a huge job requiring a lot of time or we become bored even before we get started. Procrastinators are especially guilty of this, always waiting for the day a huge block of time will drop from the sky and coincidentally have absolutely nothing to do. To solve this problem and to keep this project from becoming a nightmare, try to weed through your things in phases. Our phases break down like this... Introducing,

"The Keepers, The Sleepers and The Weepers!"

The Keepers. These pieces are your favorites. They are classics, look great on you, worn frequently and are the ones your friends are always asking to borrow. These precious gems should not be removed from the closet. Matter of fact, they deserve some extra room so they can hang freely and breathe.

The Sleepers. These pieces you like, but in all honesty are really just dust collectors. You know the type: "I thought the aquamarine in that stripe would match the aquamarine in those pants." Most likely, neither piece ever gets worn. How about those gorgeous pumps that were such a great price except that they were really a half size too small?. Probably didn't get much wear out of those either, if any at all.

The Weepers. No one should be seen in public with any of these pieces! Don't pretend you can't see them because we know they are there. There is no need to keep clothing that is tagged "For Yard Work." You can still look nice while you weed. After all, dirt washes off in the laundry. As for those spandex 80's dresses, this is their last stop!

Now that you know what to expect, let's do it! The first step should be the "once-over." Take a few minutes out of your busy life, face your wardrobe and zone in on the Weepers. . Toss out all those ripped, spotted, too tight and stained items. Get rid of anything that is out of date. Those shoes whose toes are bending upwards, bye-bye. You don't need that handbag with the peeling leather either. And that "I'm

"Cloud 9 is a non profit organization funding grants to the community, check out our bulletin board for some of our grantees"

with stupid" t-shirt, will you really ever wear it? I guarantee once those items are gone, you won't even remember you ever had them. These items should be cut up into rags or simply tossed in the trash.

The second attempt is a little tougher. You will need to be more objective and you must be merciless. Do it another day if you are not up to the challenge. Remove any and all items you haven't worn in a year. Any piece that you love because at one time you looked great in it must go. If you hear yourself saying, "I will lose a couple pounds and get back into it."—Celebrate your weight loss by buying something new and get rid of that old thing before it is out of style too. If you never had anything to match that piece, you never will, and if you still haven't worn it, chances are you won't. Those pieces are The Sleepers. Most are in good shape, stylish, and can bring you a couple of bucks... bucks you can use in filling up the new-found space in your closet. That's right! This is your consignment pile. Bring The Sleepers to your nearest Consignment or Resale Shop and reap the benefits of your closet cleaning accomplishment.

Handbags, shoes and jewelry can also be done another time. You eliminate best with a clear head so do those on another day. One of the most important rules is "Never do a second sort!" Once removed from the closet, don't look back. You will forget about all the items you have removed from your closet and will appreciate all the added space. Not to mention, you will be surprised at how stylish you really are when you are left with only The Keepers. Keeping up with an organized closet is the best way to go. Every day we look over our stuff while getting dressed. Look at each item you choose and ask yourself, "a Keeper, a Sleeper, or a Weeper?" You will love your new organized closet and you will feel less stress every time you mix and match. You might even be better dressed!

How to Begin Consigning Furniture and Antiques

Compliments of ConsignmentShops.com

Consigning furniture and antiques is a little more complicated than consigning clothing. However, the basic rules remain the same. Furniture and antiques should be in the best possible condition when presented to the consigning shop. They should be clean, sturdy and preferably in perfect condition. Remember, your piece will sell for what it is worth at the time of consignment. Tightening a few bolts or touching-up with a bit of paint can really make a difference in pricing. Refinishing is NEVER advised for actual

antiques as they lose value when refinished or touched up. Leave that for the experts.

Furniture and antique consignors should contact their shop of choice for information on pick-up services, acceptance hours or any other special requirements you may need before lugging around large or valuable pieces. Even better advice would be to make arrangements with a shop owner/manager to drop by and discuss your merchandise before bringing it in. Consider bringing with you a picture of large items and a seat cushion from upholstered items to allow the shop owner to view the material and its condition. It is also wise to interview the shop owner when considering consignment of valuable pieces. Please use your best judgment when placing valuable items with another and always get the particulars in writing.

When dropping off your merchandise, make sure this an acceptable time for the store. Advance notice may be necessary when dealing with large items. There may be a waiting list for space to sell your item. Find out if they have staff to help carry in your merchandise or to put it together. Make an appointment with the "expert" when dealing in antiques.

Another important piece of advice is to divulge all the information you have on the item. An informed shop owner is a beneficial selling tool. Regardless of the information being good or bad, give the shop owner all the information you have, hide nothing.

Estate consignments and house sales are growing in popularity. Please ask in advance if they buy "as is" which means they buy all contents and will pack. Most shops only buy individual pieces of their choice and you are responsible for delivery.

Consignment terms and consignment length will vary between stores. Most offer 50/50 splits with 120 days to sell your piece. Special circumstances will be taken into consideration on special pieces. This information should be discussed in detail with the shop you choose.

That's all there is to it. It's that easy.



Cloud 9 Consignment
206-525-4440

6518 Roosevelt Way NE
Seattle, WA 98115

Mon, Wed, Thurs 10-4
Tuesday 10-6
Saturday 12-4

www.cloud9consign.org

CLOUD 9 CONSIGNMENT CHRONICLE



How to Make an Appointment to Consign at Cloud 9

Cloud 9 offers consignment appointments on Monday mornings starting at 9:00am, Tuesday evenings, starting at 4:00pm and one Saturday per month, starting at noon, usually the 2nd Saturday.

Consigners will be allowed to consign fifteen (15) total items of which only 7 may be clothing. Appointments are 15 minutes and consigners must be ready at the beginning of their appointment time. **The Cloud reserves the right to refuse any items.** There is a "no list" for each particular consignment day and never items are listed on page 2 of this chronicle. Clothing items will be restricted to two (2) per item type. ie. two (2) pants, (2) blouses, (2) dresses, etc. Cloud 9 does not consign Men's clothes or Youth over 6X.

Monday appointments can be made beginning the preceding Thursday 10am, Tuesday appointments beginning noon the preceding Monday and Saturday appointments beginning noon the preceding Wednesday.

Appointments can only be made during store hours and may not be made before the listed times.

Markdowns & Consignment Periods

Clothing items which includes purses, belts, hats and baby blankets, etc. will be marked down 50% the first Friday of the month after being in the store one full month at full price. Items will then become donations per the dates listed on the consigning contract. Non clothing including furniture items will be marked down 20% the first Friday of the month after being in the store one month at full price. Two weeks later they will be marked down to 50% and will then be donated as per the schedule for clothing. Consigner reports outline the dates items will be marked down and when they will become a donation. The back of consigner contracts also outlines the markdown dates and donation dates. See Pick up article for details on days and times you may pick up your consigned goods. Be prepared to show ID or What Consigned List when picking up items. Some higher priced items (ie. furniture) may be marked down more times, but that will be discussed at the time of consignment with the manager.

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Items must be left in the store a minimum of 30 days and if removed before the donation date consigners will be assessed a \$.50 per item tagging fee. Consigners can remove items up to a week before the donation date listed on the consignment contract without a tagging fee being charged. See article on Pick-ups for information on pick ups.

Furniture Consignment

Furniture is consigned by appointment only. If you have furniture items to consign please come in to the store and complete a furniture reservation form. You can also email us at info@cloud9consign.org with description and pictures if possible. You will be called when floor space is available for your items. We do not have room for mattresses or full sized sofas.

Check Availability

Checks are prepared and will be available for pickup on the 1st of the month or the first day we are open in a month if the 1st falls on a Friday or Sunday. Consigners must pick up their checks unless they leave a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Consigners can buy envelopes from us for \$.50 or for \$.55 for 12 envelopes. We also ask consigners to use business sized envelopes. We can't accept the smaller envelopes as they require a different fold and we have been getting them back in some cases for being too heavy.

"Cloud 9 working to serve more consigners"

We do not issue checks for under \$5.00. You can now use balances on your account to buy other items at the Cloud. If your balance is under \$5.00 you can still use it for purchases at the Cloud.

Policy for Picking Up Items

Consigners wanting to pickup their consigned items will only be allowed to do so during the following times:

Mondays from 10-11am & 2-3pm
Tuesdays from 4pm until 5:30pm
Wednesdays from 10-11:00am & 2-3pm
Thursdays from 2pm until 3pm
****Saturdays from 2pm until 3pm**

**No pickups will be allowed on Big Sale Saturdays (Usually the 1st Saturday of the month) Special considerations may be made by calling Monday afternoon to discuss with management. Holiday items may be picked up free from tagging fees for 5 days after the holiday consigned to and will be donated after that date.

"Cloud 9 is an organization staffed by volunteers"