

Hints *For* Homeowners

Landslide Decision: Garage Voted Home Storage Area Most Consumers Want To Resolve

(NAPSA)—First impressions are critical, yet the garage, often the first point of entry into the home, is in danger of not making a very good one.

A recent Gladiator® GarageWorks consumer survey found that nearly one-quarter (22 percent) of consumers characterize their garage as a “don’t want to go in there” space. While many said their garage is “clean cut and simple,” the survey revealed that 32 percent of consumers today can’t get their car into the garage.

As homeowners contend with a trying housing market, a well-organized and made-over garage can increase the value of a home by \$2,000 to \$10,000, according to AllExperts.com. While typical storage rooms such as the basement and attic appear to have resolved their junk status, 62 percent of consumers surveyed said their garage is in dire need of help.

“Many garages are chaotic piles of seasonal tools, gadgets and equipment that are often left on the floor or force-fit into mismatched organizational solutions. In fact, company research shows that the top drivers for purchasing organizational products for the garage are wanting a more organized look and getting things off the floor. We feel creating the right plan and products to meet many lifestyles makes all the difference in addressing this need,” said garage organization expert Lou Ann Schafer.

To help homeowners get started, Gladiator® GarageWorks offers the following tips for garage organization. Additional garage organization ideas can be found at www.gladiatorgw.com.



It can be easier than you imagine to turn a “don’t want to go in there” space into an impressive one if you use a few expert tips.

- **One Size Does Not Fit All:** Bins are not an organizational solution for everyone. Instead, identify your lifestyle needs and then embark on an organizational plan. Are you a golfer, gardener, bike rider? Specifically tailored storage solutions will help you manage these interests.

- **Identify Zones:** The garage can serve many purposes. Lay the space out like you would a room inside your house. Is there room for the car? What storage solutions can be hung on the wall to free up floor space? A sample garage blueprint tool can be found on the Gladiator brand Web site.

- **The Garage Is For Everyone:** Once considered the guy’s domain, the garage is increasingly becoming a shared family space. Take all parties’ interests and needs into consideration when organizing and get them involved. This can include the integration of specific solutions, such as ball caddies, bike hooks and mobile, modular cabinets.

These tips can help you turn a “don’t want to go in there” space into an impressive well-zoned room.