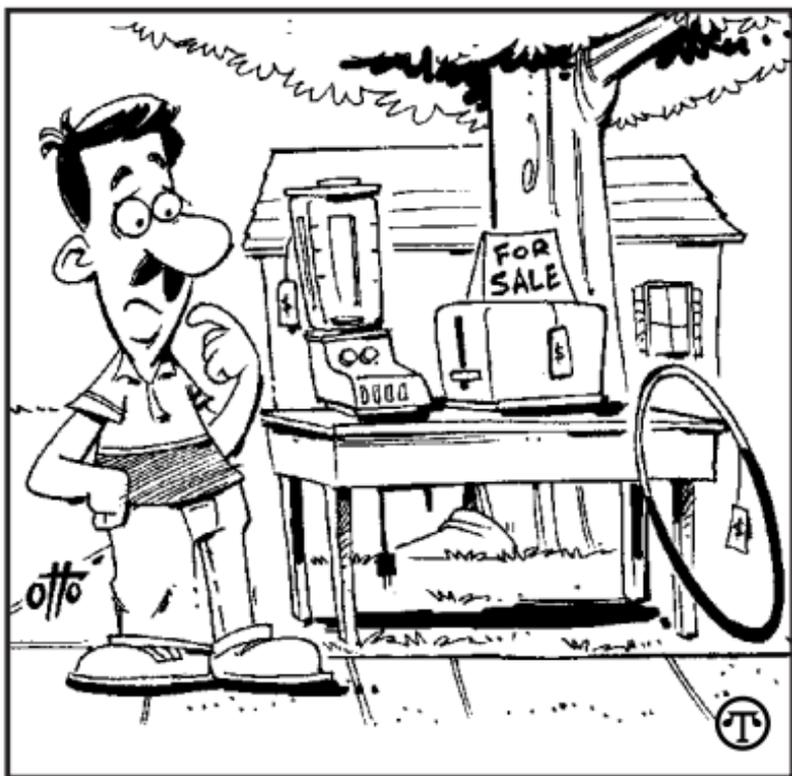


SAFETY SENSE

Second-Hand Appliances

(NAPSA)—Cleaning often leads to yard sales and an overflow of unwanted appliances at thrift shops and in the classified ads. If you bring home one of these second-hand appliances, however, you may be getting more than you bargained for.



Put safety first when looking at second-hand appliances.

The Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM) urges consumers to consider the following tips before purchasing a second-hand portable appliance:

1. Ask the age and working condition of the appliance you are about to purchase.

2. Check for frayed or damaged power supply cords, switches and parts.

3. Inspect for tampering and inquire about any repairs performed on the appliance.

4. Make sure all parts, including the owner's operating manual is included with the product. The owner's manual offers important performance and safety tips.

5. Has the appliance been the subject of a safety recall? Recall notices are available from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (www.cpsc.gov). Remember to check back through the life of the appliance for recall notices.

If you're still in doubt after going through the above checklist, consider purchasing a new appliance. Those selling a second-hand product should also use these guidelines to determine if the unit should be sold, or simply discarded. For more information, visit www.aham.org.