

# HOW TO... HOLD A CLOTHES SWAP



## The Essentials

- ♥ **Find a venue;** all being well, you can just use your home for this. Use different parts of your home for different activities; e.g. a bidding room, clothes room and a changing room.
- ♥ **Invite;** ask all the wonderful people in your life to come along. Tell them to bring some clothes or accessories they're prepared to part with (quality over quantity is key).
- ♥ **Choose clothes;** decide what from your own wardrobe you're going to add to the swap.
- ♥ **Buy snacks;** stock up on nibbles (both savoury and sweet) and some drinks (tip: drinks of the alcoholic persuasion may encourage your friends to bid generously!).
- ♥ **Let the browsing commence;** Once you've got all the clothes together, invite everyone to look through what's been brought, try things on and hold on to what you want to bid on.
- ♥ **Bid;** As host, present each item up for auction. You and your friends then bid; highest bidder wins. As host, keep tally of how much people are spending.
- ♥ **Cheers;** thank people for coming and let them know how much money was raised.

## The Ideas

- ♥ Tell your story. Begin the swap by explaining why you're fundraising for Manchester Cares. You may even want to show the Manchester Cares film as that'll help people see what they're supporting before the bidding begins.
- ♥ Break the auction into rounds so that people have time to try more things on, get a snack and have a chat.
- ♥ Take whatever is left unsold to a charity shop to spread the love even further (or save it for the next clothes swap!)

### The Extra Mile...Sell baked goods

As well as offering some nibbles, bake and sell some cakes for people to take home or eat there and then. You could bake simple flapjacks or create something worthy of The Great British Bake Off! Take any left over cakes into work the next working day and continue to sell them there.

## The Money Bit

1. Tot up how much people have spent during the bidding process
2. Get in touch with Rob with the amount raised: [rob.paterson@manchestercares.org.uk](mailto:rob.paterson@manchestercares.org.uk)
3. We will then arrange collection of the cash – or ask Rob for Manchester Cares' bank details and transfer the money raised by BACs. For the payment reference, use your initials followed by 'clothes swap'.

**Don't forget to tweet and share pictures from your event on @ManchesterCares!**

If you have any questions, or would like any charity flyers or materials for your event, please contact Rob Paterson on [rob.paterson@manchestercares.org.uk](mailto:rob.paterson@manchestercares.org.uk).  
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