



Recipe for Fun Through Sharing

Ingredients: You, friends, neighbors, and the potential for fun!

1. Share ownership of a vacation home with 5 to 10 friends.
2. Form a group to buy and share season tickets for sports teams, the symphony, or the theatre.
3. Go online to find carpools to festivals and concerts.
4. Share sports/exercise equipment, a kayak, or a sailboat.
5. Share a hot tub or a barbecue grill with neighbors.
6. Share electronics, like video cameras or karaoke machines.
7. Plan a neighborhood mural painting on your garage door.
8. Organize a games night or book group with friends.
9. Take down fences to make more neighborhood play space.

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Recipe for a Sharing-Oriented City

Ingredients: A desire to live in a greener and more resourceful city

1. Make city-owned vacant lots available to area residents who would like to plant community food gardens.
2. Expand public libraries to lend not only books, but also tools, electronics, appliances, and other goods.
3. Build spaces where community members could go to use specialized equipment: a community wood workshop, sewing workshop, commercial kitchen, bike repair station, etc.
4. Create city-wide carsharing and bikesharing programs.
5. Create "Guaranteed Ride Home" programs for carpooling commuters, giving them free taxi rides home when needed.

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Recipe for Shared Transportation

Ingredients: A desire to save \$\$ and live in a world of fewer cars

1. Find a friend or neighbor who would like to share a car with you and make a schedule to take turns with it.
2. Join a carsharing program, like Zip Car or City Car Share.
3. Start a carsharing club or put a shared electric car in your apartment complex or other residential community.
4. Set up or join a carpool/vanpool to work or school.
5. Start or join a casual ridesharing program or group.
6. Go online and find one-time rideshares for long trips, holiday weekends, sports events, or concerts.
7. Bring bike sharing to your city, like Paris did.

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Yours to keep or share, from the authors of
The Sharing Solution: How to Save Money, Simplify Your Life & Build Community
By Janelle Orsi and Emily Duskow (Nolo 2009)

Recipe for Delicious Food Sharing

Ingredients: An appetite for fresh, diverse, healthy, affordable food

1. Trade leftovers with a neighbor or share weekly meals.
2. Support local farms and enjoy fresh produce by taking part in a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program.
3. Start a community food garden in your neighborhood, or share your yard space so that others may grow food.
4. Share fruit from your trees or start a community backyard harvest program.
5. Join a grocery cooperative, or form a group to save money by sharing bulk food purchases.
6. Start a neighborhood composting group to recycle food.

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Recipe for a Wonderful Neighborhood

Ingredients: You, your neighbors, and a desire to build community

1. Have regular block parties and neighborhood potlucks.
2. Create a neighborhood bulletin board or email list.
3. Circulate a get-to-know-your-neighbors questionnaire and share the completed forms with participating neighbors.
4. Take down fences to create large shared yards.
5. Exchange dog walking and childcare.
6. Form a home improvement group and take turns doing work projects on each neighbor's home.
7. Host a skillshare - a gathering where people teach short classes on anything from jam making to bike repair.

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Recipe for a Good Sharing Plan

Ingredients: You, your sharing partner, generosity, and creativity

1. Find sharing partner(s) who are thoughtful, dependable, easy to communicate with, and able to be flexible.
2. Communicate honestly about your goals and needs, and set clear expectations for the sharing arrangement.
3. Discuss details of the arrangement, such as dividing expenses and responsibilities, making decisions, arranging ownership of shared items, handling disputes, managing risk, changing the plan, ending the arrangement, etc.
4. Put your sharing plan into writing so that everyone is clear about what they've agreed to. Then start sharing!

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Recipe for a Sharing Workplace

Ingredients: Desire for a pleasant, supportive, and sustainable workplace

1. Keep a shared bike or car at work for short trips.
2. Share meals by taking turns bringing lunch for others, or by cooperating to stock healthy foods and cook at work.
3. Pool resources and share workplace amenities such as a massage chair, dishwasher, espresso maker, or smoothie blender.
4. Start an employee-run childcare cooperative on site.
5. Keep a "Sharing Closet" at work for shared business attire.
6. Employers: Give commuter vouchers or free parking to employees who carpool; create a job sharing program.
7. Form an employee-owned cooperative or do profit-sharing.

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Recipe for Good Communication

Ingredients: Desire to communicate genuinely and respectfully

1. **Avoid judging the other person; instead, tell them how YOU feel.** INSTEAD OF: *Your music is too loud,* TRY: *I'm having a hard time concentrating. Could you turn your music down?*
2. **Acknowledge different views.** INSTEAD OF: *You are wrong,* TRY: *I think we have different understandings of this situation.*
3. **Acknowledge how the other person feels.** INSTEAD OF: *It's not my fault I was late!* TRY: *I'm sorry I disappointed you by being late. I had a hard time finishing work on time today.*
4. **Ask open-ended and "what?" questions.** INSTEAD OF: *Why are you mad?* TRY: *What's on your mind?*

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Recipe for a "Stuff" Sharing Group

Ingredients: You, neighbors, a desire to reduce clutter and spending

1. Gather for a potluck meeting or create an email group.
2. Everyone list items they own and can share, like tools, electronics, sports equipment, etc. Explain what each item may be used for and for how long. For immobile items (like a hot tub), plan how to schedule use.
3. Compile the lists and organize items by category. Group members can then contact each other to borrow items.

Variation: Create a "Stuff Library" in a shed or garage that everyone can access. Store shared items so that group members can borrow or "check out" items when needed.

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