

You Can Sell Anything on eBay - Or Can You?

Over 100 million people are members of eBay. Through eBay, you can buy items in almost any category that you can imagine - at great prices. You can also sell almost anything you can imagine on eBay - people often sell items that have absolutely no real value for very high prices. There are limits, however, to what can be bought and sold.

eBay does not allow certain items to be auctioned through their website. Services are one type of 'item' that cannot be auctioned - simply because it is not an item. Some seller's blatantly ignore this however. The sell of other items is illegal, even if it isn't being sold through eBay. eBay restricts the sale of any type of item that is considered 'illegal for sale' in any other selling format. Illegal items such as satellite descramblers are forbidden as well.

Anything that is copyrighted - such as copies of DVDs, CDs, or software - may not be sold through eBay auctions. You can, however, sell a DVD, CD, or any software that you bought legitimately...as long as you are not just selling a copy that you made of these types of items. eBay does not allow the sale of 'replicas.' A replica is a knockoff version of designer items, such as purses, dresses, shoes, or sunglasses that look identical to those that have designer labels.

Items that are regulated by the state or federal government are forbidden on eBay. These items include alcoholic beverages, weapons and firearms, all tobacco products, and both prescription and illegal drugs. There are small exceptions to this rule, however. If you have a collectable, such as a tin that contains tobacco, you may sell that item if the package has never been opened, and if you state the contents of the package are not meant for consumption. There are other conditions that must be met as well when selling these types of collectables.

Any type or breed of animal or reptile may not be

sold through an eBay auction. This includes animals that were once living, and are now stuffed and mounted. This rule may also apply to items that are taken from endangered species, such as Ivory. When it comes to these types of items, when in doubt, don't.

Tickets may be sold, but it is illegal to sell tickets for a higher price than you originally paid for them. This is called ticket scalping, and it is illegal. Lottery tickets are also banned from eBay auctions, as well as raffle tickets. Again, if you are not sure if your item is eligible for an eBay auction, either don't put it up for auction, or contact eBay to get an answer one way or the other. Don't risk breaking the law!

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