

## Swap Not Shop

## A club member's home on a weekend afternoon is the perfect time and location for a Swap Not Shop event

Members are invited and there is no entrance fee to attend.

The only set up necessary is making tables available to display the swap items. A clothes rack and hangers are helpful. A dedicated area for the Target Project information and a box/cashbox for donations must be available for all to find easily.

The entire event from preparation to clean-up requires only a few volunteers. We announce and promote our event far enough in advance so members can plan to either attend or drop off items beforehand or both. The organizers plan on how and where to donate leftover items afterwards. The host clears space in her home before participants arrive. Depending on the number of items that are offered, a few displays are arranged to showcase the times.

We plan on three hours in an Open House format, meaning people come and go as they please.

The donated items are displayed and attendees can "shop", taking the items they want. We have a table with the FAWCO Target Project info cards and website/social media accounts plus a member there to answer any questions. We encourage attendees to look at the items they gathered in the swap and are asked to donate a portion of what they would have paid for the items. We haven't needed to set any limits - participants can attend and take items even if they don't bring anything; they can offer items and not attend or take anything; they can just show up and hang out; donations to the Target Project are suggested and not required. Most participants do donate to the project, however.

A few volunteers help clean up after the event to get the host's home back in order, put away any display items, bag up leftover items for donation get the left over items to a donation location.

This fundraiser appeals to people's desires to clear out there homes in an easy and environmentally friendly way as well as satisfy people's love of a bargain.

Members can bring items to our event they'd otherwise donate and swap them for other items while having a fun afternoon with their AWC Berlin friends.

This is a great event to combine with Earth Day as it highlights recycling, reducing waste. It is a great way to introduce the Target Project to your club and it is a soft launch for clubs unexperienced at fundraising.

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## **Happy Swapping!**