



## **Selling on Craigslist**

### **Objectives:**

- ☮ Learn how to post an ad on Craigslist
- ☮ Understand how to edit or delete an ad
- ☮ Develop an understanding of Craigslist safety & how to avoid scams

# Your Craigslist Homepage

The screenshot shows the Craigslist homepage for the Oregon Coast region. The layout includes a header with the Craigslist logo and the region name 'oregon coast'. Below the header are several main sections: 'community', 'housing', 'jobs', 'for sale', 'services', and 'discussion forums'. A search bar is located at the top left, and a calendar is below it. On the right side, there is a language dropdown menu and a 'nearby cl' section listing other regions. Red callout boxes with white text point to specific features: 'Post an ad' points to the 'post to classifieds' link; 'Search the site' points to the search bar; 'Change language' points to the language dropdown; 'Search nearby areas' points to the 'nearby cl' section; 'Indicates the area you are searching' points to the 'oregon coast' header; 'Browse items for sale' points to the 'for sale' section; and 'Help Section' points to the 'help, faq, abuse, legal' link.

## All Craigslist Postings Are Free, Except for:

- ⊕ Job postings in selected areas—\$10-75 (\$15 on the Oregon Coast)
- ⊕ Brokered Apartment rentals in the NYC area—\$10
- ⊕ Various by-dealer categories in the US—\$3-5
- ⊕ Cars & Trucks sold by dealers—\$5
- ⊕ Furniture by-dealer in the US, Vancouver BC—\$3
- ⊕ Gigs in US and selected CA areas—\$3-10
- ⊕ Services in US and CA—\$5

## Posting Rules

- Ⓜ You may post to one category and one city, no more than once every 48 hours.
- Ⓜ Try to include *at least* one clear picture of the item. The more pictures, the better.
- Ⓜ Posts that are too similar to active posts may be blocked by Craigslist.

## Tips

- Ⓜ Take some time to create a descriptive post. Include any specs you know, and describe any flaws/damage to the item. Be honest.
- Ⓜ If you lose the email that allows you to manage/remove your post, you can have it resent.
- Ⓜ If you have many items to sell, don't post them all at once! It will get too confusing.
- Ⓜ Buyers often do not show up. Be prepared for that and don't get frustrated.
- Ⓜ Set the price slightly above your lowest acceptable price. Many buyers will make a lower offer.
- Ⓜ Don't be offended if someone makes a lower offer. Craigslist buyers are bargain shoppers.
- Ⓜ If you aren't receiving responses to your item, consider lowering the price.
- Ⓜ Selling on Craigslist will not make you a lot of money. Don't expect more than a few extra bucks.

## Financial Safety

- Ⓜ Deal only with people you can meet in person. NEVER MAIL ITEMS!
- Ⓜ Be especially cautious when selling high value items. Consider selling them elsewhere.
- Ⓜ Know that Craigslist is not involved in any transaction, and assumes no responsibility if something goes wrong.
- Ⓜ DON'T give your financial information like credit card or bank account numbers.
- Ⓜ DON'T wire funds via Western Union, MoneyGram, Paypal, or any other wire service.
- Ⓜ DON'T accept payment by check or money order—they are often fakes.
- Ⓜ DON'T respond to emails about your item that do not specifically mention your item. Messages that say, "Is it available?" without mentioning the actual item are a scam! Real buyers will refer to your item specifically. If you suspect an email is fraudulent, do not respond!
- Ⓜ DON'T ship an item to a buyer—EVER!

## Personal Safety

- Ⓜ Meet in a well-lit public place, if possible
- Ⓜ Bring a friend if you can (safety in numbers)
- Ⓜ Let a friend/family member know where you're going
- Ⓜ Take a cell phone with you if you have one
- Ⓜ Trust your instincts—if you feel unsafe beforehand, don't meet with the buyer. If you feel unsafe when you meet with the buyer, leave immediately
- Ⓜ DO NOT invite strangers into your home
- Ⓜ DON'T put your email or phone number in your ad—always use the "anonymize" feature
- Ⓜ Don't respond to messages that seem suspicious

## Actual scam emails sent to craigslist users:

Hi, I am selling this car because my platoon has been sent back to Afganistan and don't want it get old in my backyard. The price is low because I need to sell it before November 16th. It has no damage, no scratches or dents, no hidden defects. It is in immaculate condition, meticulously maintained and hasn't been involved in any accident...I do have the title , clear, under my name. The Denali has 35,000 miles VIN# 1GKEK63U16J138428 . It is still available for sale if interested, price as stated in the ad \$4,300. **The car is in Baltimore, MD, in case it gets sold I will take care of shipping.** Let me know if you are interested, email back.

Regards!!

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First of all I want to thank you for your interest for my car. I sell it at this price(\$2,980.00 ) because I have been divorced recently. Now the car is in my property and as a woman i don't need it. This car is in excellent working conditions, no scratches, flaws or any kind of damage, slightly used in 100% working and looking conditions and comes with a clear title.

**From the beginning you have to know that for the payment I request only secure pay, I prefer the payment to be done using eBay services. We will use a safe payment method because I am affiliated at eBay and I have a purchase protection account for \$20,000.00 The final price that I want for this car is \$2,980.00 including shipping and handling. If you are interested in buying it please provide me your full name and address so I can initiate the deal through eBay. I will wait your answer very soon.**

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Hello,

I am looking for caring and honest person to watch my 3 years old daughter while I work, during our stay in the state and a friend introduced craigslist.com to me, I was searching on Childcare Babysitter, when your Ad post pumped up as a Childcare and Babysitter, am interested in your service as my babysitter/Childcare.. My Little daughters is (Mellina ) , I would like you to watch over her while i am at work in your Location , I reside in United Kingdom,I will be coming to the States in about two weeks time , Cos I just got a contract with Boss Perfume fashion industry down there, I work as a model and the contract will last for a month, the duration of our service wil be from 10am to 5pm, monday thru friday, I would like to know if she will be taken care of in your childcare centre/Home, or the hotel room where i would be lodging, It's Okay by me, any of this ways. My little daughter (Mellina ) is 3 years old, I will be waiting patiently for your email indicating the cost of everything,I mean the price for your service,how long you will be available to take care of her,how much u charge per week. she is just three years old as i have said earlier and i will be glad to update you and **make the payment in advance to show you how serious i am**. So please get back to me as soon as you can if you will be able to handle her and take very good care of her for me.

Email me back

Your's faithfully

# Quick Guide to Posting an Item for Sale on Craigslist

1. Start at <http://oregoncoast.craigslist.org>
2. Click **Post to Classifieds**
3. Choose type of posting, category, & location

You need to fill out these fields to continue:

- Ⓜ **Email:** *Craigslist Email Relay* is a way to send & receive emails without giving out your email address. Learn more here: <http://www.craigslist.org/about/help/email-relay>
- Ⓜ **Posting Title:** The title should describe what you're selling
- Ⓜ **Postal Code:** Your zip code
- Ⓜ **Posting Body:** Clearly describe what you are selling. *Do not* include your phone number.

## Show on Maps

It is not recommended that you show your location unless you are selling something such as real estate. Check the "Show on Maps" and complete the information you want to share in order to show up in Craigslist's map-based search.

## Click "Continue" to move on to Images

Click **Add Images** and choose photo/s from your files. Once your photo/s upload, click **done with images** to continue.

## Publish

On the next page, you can choose to edit anything that needs to be changed, or click **Publish**.

## Your post is NOT published yet

- Ⓜ Open the email you receive from Craigslist and click the **Publish** link
- Ⓜ Verify your email address
- Ⓜ Keep this email so you can edit or delete your ad later

**It should take approximately 15 minutes for your post to appear on Craigslist.**

**Need more help?** Visit <http://www.craigslist.org/about/help/>, visit the library's Reference Desk, or check the library's calendar of events for our next Drop-in Computer Lab!

Or, watch our Craigslist tutorial on YouTube: Go to [www.coosbaylibrary.org](http://www.coosbaylibrary.org) and **click YouTube at the bottom of page to reach our YouTube channel.**



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