

WHAT ARE HEIRLOOMS

Heirlooms are precious items kept in the family, sometimes going back for generations. These items usually come to us after the death of a family member. There can be various heirlooms in a family held by different family members.

Common heirlooms can be jewelry, china, instrument, a piece of furniture and more. It all depends on what item was thought to be precious by one person.

Heirlooms almost always come with some type of story and is used to keep that story alive within the family. However, when heirlooms are not that precious to us we hang on to them because it meant something to another family member and we feel it is our job to hang onto it and pass it along when we die. However, sometimes heirlooms just become clutter.

WHAT TO DO WITH HEIRLOOMS

Ask other family members if they want them. Have them choose a day and time to come and retrieve said items. If they do not come and get said item/items give them to the other person who showed interest. If after a month no one has come to retrieve said item/items there are various options. If you want a memory of any items take a picture. Otherwise here are some ideas to do with heirlooms outside of selling or donating. However, that is certainly an option.

Some items like furniture can be repurposed. I was given a bassinet that was hand crafted for my father. His brothers slept in it I slept in it along with my brothers and cousins. My daughter also slept in it, it is beautiful, wicker weaved with metal wheels. If is currently sitting in a spare room, but I would like to place some plants in it. I imagine them cascading over the edges, but I have not done it yet. My grandmother had a pendant made for me with a diamond and rubies. The diamond came from a piece she owned and the rubies were from a piece her mother owned. With a little imagination an heirloom can become something new that you will actually use or to give to a family member as a special gift.