

## Flea Markets

Largely a bi-product of the recession, flea markets proliferated in the early 1990s. Whenever I get the opportunity, I rather enjoy having a good old rummage through other peoples' discarded stuff. Over the years I've come across quite a few decent bits and pieces from the flea markets. They are good places to find kids' skis and skates, books, sometimes music, especially vinyl and the odd tasteless ornament to give as a present to someone you don't like very much. There are even a few markets that offer designer and vintage clothing. So there is some good stuff to be had, but be warned, you will have to work hard to find it. Finns are a thrifty bunch on the whole and like to get their money's worth out of whatever they buy. As a consequence, most of the things that find their way into flea markets are so outdated or worn out as to be virtually useless and when you do happen to find something half decent, the price being asked can make your eyes water.

On-line 'flea markets', like [www.tori.fi](http://www.tori.fi) and [www.huuto.net](http://www.huuto.net), the Finnish version of eBay, are as full of junk as their bricks and mortar counterparts; even more so, as it is easier

