

## SPRING HOME ORGANIZING TIPS

*Spring has sprung! Are you organized?*

Start by studying how you and your family move about your house. Recognize how you utilize each room, and how often you're there—this will help prioritize your organizing. We're offering some basic and clever tips for **overall home calm**:

"For every  
minute spent  
in organizing,  
an hour  
is earned."

- Benjamin Franklin

### 1. RESIST THE PILE HABIT

Most of us walk into our house with purses, groceries, keys, and more. An intuitive "drop zone" off your main entryway creates a home for essential items. It may include a key rack, an inbox for kids' artwork or bills, or an attractive container for everyday items. Bonus: Find space in your entryway for a custom—or makeshift—mudroom area.

### 2. ORGANIZE AN INSPIRING HOME OFFICE

Even if your home office shares space with a bedroom, create a dedicated work area that inspires you.

- Love where you work—even if you don't have a window, hang a pretty picture above your desk and personalize a small corner of your desk with framed photos, a living plant or kids' artwork.
- Buy a beautiful basket to tame your inbox piles on your desk's surface, and use vertical file boxes for everyday papers.
- Invest in an attractive, comfortable and ergonomic chair.

### 3. CLOSETS THAT MAKE SENSE

What good is that custom closet when your most needed items are inaccessible (or in a pile)? Make sure essentials are within arm's reach and contained well.

- Use garment boxes and sweater bins, which can also house handbags.
- Slim, velvet hangers work well to maximize space—you can squeeze in 20-25% more than traditional wooden hangers.
- See through acrylic shoeboxes stack well—and protect your Choos!

### 4. A KITCHEN THAT WORKS FOR YOU

Arrange your kitchenware by frequency of use, with everyday dishes on an easy-to-reach lower shelf and special-occasion pieces up above. Create a cooking zone around the stove, storing pots and pans as close to the range as possible. Make it a snap for kids to grab snacks on the go with see-through wire baskets or airtight clear canisters. Lastly, declutter kitchen counters by mounting basics like your calendar, phone, to-do lists and receipts—on a wall-mounted bulletin board.

You're welcome!

Sources: Changing Places' team of expert organizers and a few extra tips from *Real Simple* magazine.