

Tame Kids Clutter!

Perhaps this has happened to you: Walking across the floor at night, a LEGO™ or Polly Pocket™ jacket gets stuck to the bottom of your foot. You vow it's time to make a change. *It's time to get organized.*

Taming the Toy Chest

1. Grouping like toys or books together in clear containers will allow the child to see where things should go. Remember not to make the container too big or it will be too heavy for them to lift.
2. Part of the fun of playing with the toys is dumping them out into a pile! Don't micro-compartmentalize because kids like sifting through their toys as they play.
3. Have a designated area for the toys such as shelves, a game room, a closet, or a corner of their room.

Kids, as well as adults, will usually put things away if it's easy to do and if they know where it goes.

Taming the Closet Monster

1. Group first by seasons, then by types (pants, dresses, shirts), then by color.



2. Use one type of hanger to make it visually more calming. Organizers recommend all white plastic or hardwood hangers.
3. If you can, add a shelf and a drop-down bar so kids can reach their clothes easily.

Where should you start the whole organizing process? First of all, you need to know what you have. This means going through everything and deciding what to keep, donate, sell or trash. Don't expect to do this all in one day, but do get it done. You'll find that this exercise will free up space you didn't realize you had. If your kids are old enough, get them involved. Then, you organize what's left.

Here's where a professional organizer can really help. A professional organizer can assist with closet design and reorganization, home organization, filing systems, paper management and other vital areas of your life. By decreasing stress and improving your environment, professional organizers help you live healthier, happier, more balanced lives.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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