

# 7 WAYS TO DECLUTTER your home

Here's how to break out of your clutter rut



We all strive to have a clean and organized home, one that's tidy enough to make Marie Kondo proud, but the thought of sorting through the whole household can often feel overwhelming. We spoke to Deanna Zacharia, owner of *The Sorted Home*, who shares easy ways to tackle the chaos and transform your space into a clutter-free zone.

## 1 START SMALL

"Don't try and tackle everything at once," Zacharia says. "Instead start with one area of your home that you can complete quickly. Begin with one room, one area or even just one drawer. This will help you stay focused and motivated as you start to see progress. Create three clear piles: keep, donate, bin."

## 2 DIVIDE AND CONQUER

To make sorting simple, Zacharia recommends breaking items down into smaller categories. "When looking at your entire kitchen, begin with your utensil drawer. Do you really need three sets of measuring cups or five pairs of scissors? Get rid of your duplicates and keep the essentials. This will free up space and make it easier to find the things you're looking for."

## 3 LET IT GO

"One of the hardest things about decluttering is deciding what to keep and what to get rid of," Zacharia explains. "As you sort through your belongings, ask yourself, 'Do I love it? Do I use it?' If the answer is no, then it's time to let it go."

KRISTEN  
BELL

## 4 STORE SMART

Once you've sorted through your items and decided what to keep, it's now time for your organisation skills to shine. "Use storage containers, tubs and baskets to keep everything sorted and easy to find," Zacharia suggests. "Maximise your space by using vertical solutions like shelves, hooks and hanging organisers. This is especially helpful if you're tight on floor space, and it doesn't need to be expensive – Kmart has a fabulous range of affordable storage solutions."

## 5 GO DIGITAL

Between mail, catalogues and household bills, you'll be surprised at how much room paper can take up. To save space, Zacharia recommends switching to digital where you can. "In today's digital age, there's really no need to keep piles of paper clutter around your home anymore," she says. "File away the super-important stuff, scan documents and store them digitally. Consider switching to e-bills to cut down on your paper mail."

## 6 GET CREATIVE

You don't necessarily need to go out and buy storage-specific products. It's better for your wallet (and the environment) to use what you already have at home. "Repurpose some old furniture, use glass jars for makeup brush holders, ceramic bowls to store earrings or baskets for toy storage," Zacharia suggests. "Get the whole family involved in finding fun and unique ways to keep your home clutter-free."

## 7 KEEP IT FUN

Cleaning doesn't always have to feel like a chore. "Put on your favourite music or invite a friend over to help," Zacharia suggests. "Make it a fun experience that will leave you feeling refreshed and recharged." Don't know where to start? Spotify has a number of playlists that will have you dancing while you clean!



"Once you've decluttered your home, be sure to set up a system to help you maintain it. This could include a daily 15-minute decluttering routine or a monthly donation drop-off at your local charity." For more tips on keeping your home organised, follow @the organised home on Instagram.

## STORAGE SOLUTIONS

Handy pieces to help you stay organised!

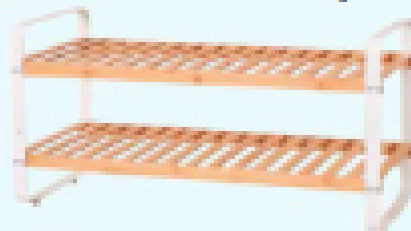


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