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# How to Declutter Your Home and Keep It Neat and Tidy

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The decluttering mindset is becoming more and more prominent as people change their relationships with their things. Many people are adopting more zen lifestyles and enjoying the benefits of cleaning out their homes. Here's how to declutter and keep your home tidy.

# Get hired help

According to NBC News, many people have <u>reported</u> that hiring a cleaner or organizer freed up valuable time in their schedules and helped them be happier. Professional cleaners can help you declutter the messiest parts of your home (hiring a cleaning service around St. Joseph costs \$100 - \$120 on average). Search online to find professionals who specialize in decluttering (a home organizer <u>typically charges</u> \$30 - \$80 an hour). Or, if you'd like, you can

hire people who specialize in different parts of the home, like the kitchen, bathroom, or living room.

# Reset the pantry

Your pantry sometimes gets neglected in the decluttering process, as it is often in a closed space and is easy to forget. Identifying <u>foods</u> that might have expired is a good first step to organizing a pantry. Get rid of food you know you'll never eat, and organize whatever Tupperware or non-food objects you may have in there.

## Organize your wardrobe

After you've cleared out your closet, you can <u>donate</u> your clothes to charitable organizations such as Goodwill or the Salvation Army. You also might be able to sell gently used clothes online or to second-hand shops and help decrease clothing waste.

### **Create new storage space**

Take care of storage after the decluttering process. If you get bins or boxes, it can be tempting to store unnecessary items in them. After hiring professionals to declutter and clean your home, look into minimal storage options. You can also make storage space out of unusual areas of your house. Go under the stairs or into unused basement areas for new <u>storage</u> spaces.

# Find a place for your papers

Papers are small in size, but mighty in how much clutter they can cause. Find yourself some nice folders that can hold all your important papers in one place. Get an accordion folder or a box with <u>color-coded folders</u> that will help you organize your papers more easily. For backup, you can also scan documents and upload them to cloud storage. Set up online bill pay to reduce document clutter and carbon footprint.

# Buy high-quality bathroom items

A bathroom can host a lot of germs and bacteria, so clean it regularly. Get a few cleaning supplies to make the process as easy as possible. The bathroom tends to be a place where all sorts of shampoo samples, travel-size lotions, and other things reside. Get rid of your samples and stock up on fewer, high-quality items. Things like old reading materials and excess decorations can also make a <u>bathroom</u> feel less organized.

## Vacuum everything

To take care of both carpets and <u>tiles</u>, invest in a good vacuum that works on both surfaces. This can help you avoid having to sweep and instead can get more coverage in your cleaning.

However, when buying a vacuum, it's important to get a top-quality model that won't cause any scuffs, scratches, or damage.

### Clear the countertops

Your tables and countertops are often the first to become cluttered. The mess that usually accumulates consists of papers, calendars, plates, groceries, and other knick-knacks that don't have a place. One way to avoid this is by giving everything a designated spot: from your papers to your office supplies to even the oddest of items that might end up there. They can go in little bowls or boxes and look more aesthetically pleasing.

Decluttering is a huge first step, but the trick is to find ways to keep your home <u>organized</u> and free of unnecessary things for a long time. Hired help can make the process easier and help you remove attachment to your items. Keep up the good work so you can relax in a clean home.