

Suzi

HOME MAKER

ORGANIZING | DOWNSIZING | TRANSITIONING



14 STEPS

For a Quick Declutter!



14 Easy Steps to a Quick Declutter!

You've deep cleaned your home. You've decluttered every room. But, your home still doesn't feel quite right. It still looks messy and cluttered despite your hard work.

This is actually a common complaint. Sometimes we "can't see the forest for the trees" because we live in our homes and see every room daily. We often overlook things that have been around for so long that they've just become part of the décor.

I think this is why professional organizers often suggest removing everything from a room or closet to start with an empty space. Then, you slowly add back the things you love and use.

1. Too-full Countertops

When your kitchen countertops are full of clutter, your space looks dirty even when it isn't. The same applies to your bathroom countertops. Look at it this way, when you go to a hotel room, the counters are free of clutter and appear spacious and clean. This same feeling applies to your own home. Cluttered countertops are one of the top things that make your house look cluttered.

2. Excessive Decorations

Any home decorator knows that you can definitely go overboard when it comes to decorating your home. Every room needs space for the eyes to "rest," meaning every square inch of your home doesn't require decorations. This might be too many family photos, too many knick-knacks, too many collectibles, etc. You get the idea.

3. The Exterior of the refrigerator

The exterior of the refrigerator has a tendency to become a clutter spot quickly. We mount things with magnets and then never remove them. We add items so we "won't forget" to do them, but we still forget. A completely covered refrigerator is one of the things that make your house look cluttered.

4. A messy entryway

The entryway to your home is the first thing you and your guests see when they come to your home. If you don't address this area, this can be one of the main things that make your house look cluttered. Sometimes great ideas can be found on Pinterest for how to best utilize this space.

5. Paper piles

Everyone has a tendency to pile mail and papers from time to time. Piles of paper laying throughout the home are one of the many things that make your house look cluttered. The solution to this problem is a good paper and mail filing system. Remember that any system is better than no system.

6. Too many throw pillows

Have you been in a store and adored those beautiful furniture displays or bedroom decor? Often, you'll find a lovely bedroom set with a matching comforter, bed skirt, pillow shams, throws, and an abundance of decorative pillows. It looks inviting and comforting, but I'm afraid it isn't very practical on a daily basis to remove and then add back all of those pillows when you make your bed.

7. Craft clutter

A house full of crafts is definitely a battle for many of us. We often just need to look at creative ways to store them. But, first, we need to eliminate the clutter before we can store it all away. Go through your craft supplies routinely and throw out anything that is broken or not usable. Donate anything that is no longer enjoyed.

8. Too much furniture

Everyone has been in a home that is filled to every corner with wall-to-wall furniture. Sometimes we inherit furniture and antiques, and we don't know quite what to do with them. We feel guilty for parting with them because they belonged to a loved one. Parting with the furniture feels wrong. So, let's address this issue.

Getting rid of furniture or gifts from loved ones does NOT mean you don't love or appreciate the person. You can't enjoy these items if they create a cluttered house. You want to fill your space with the things that you love.

9. Laundry and "clean" clothes

We all have to deal with laundry and the work that it requires. Laundry baskets full of clean clothes create a cluttered house if you don't address this daily. Even clean, folded laundry can be one of the things that make your house look cluttered. Get in the habit of putting clean laundry away every single day. Do not let it linger.

10. Dishes in the sink or on the countertop

This goes without saying, but dishes have to be addressed daily. Just like clean laundry, even clean dishes can be one of the things that make your house look cluttered if you fail to put them away and out of sight. Once dishes are clean and dry, put them away as soon as you can.

11. Unmade beds

As the bed goes, so goes the room. Make your beds daily. Again, do not make this more complicated than it has to be by adding too many decorative pillows and too many accessories. Unmade beds are one of the easiest and fastest clutter issues to remedy and one of the things that make your house look cluttered if not addressed. An unmade bed invites more clutter. Once a bed is made, you are far less likely to pile anything on it.

12. Overfilled shelves and cabinets

Declutter the interior of those cabinets. Too much clutter creates stress. When they are filled to capacity, you can't find what you need. Eliminate all of the excesses and create a space for only what you use and love.

13. Visible cords and wires

We all have and use our home electronics, but the cords are unsightly and can become one of the things that make your house look cluttered. Look at Pinterest for some creative ways to hide those cords.

14. Unclear surface tops

Not every space in your home needs to be covered and decorated. Piles can develop if they aren't cleared daily. This can be a kitchen counter, dining room table, bedside table, desk, etc. Leave open spaces as often as you can. Put items away in drawers and containers and keep the clutter at a minimum.

You'll appreciate the look of your home when you address this clutter issue.

Hopefully, these 14 suggestions will help you get your clutter under control. And when in doubt, or feeling overwhelmed, call Suzi Home Maker at 705-768-7894 and we will help you deal with your downsizing or packing needs.

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