



YOUR HOME expert advice



Jeffrey Phillip
GH Organizing Expert
(a) @jeffrey\_phillip

# YOUR GUIDE TO

# ORGANIZING ANYTHING

Get sorted in just minutes a day with these genius tidy-up tricks





# TAKE FIVE

Focus on simple tasks that reduce visual clutter and pack a big impact.

# MAGAZINES & CATALOGS

With a shopping bag, walk through your home and corral already-enjoyed periodicals. Clip recipes or workout moves you want to keep; recycle anything older than two months.

# STORAGE CONTAINERS

Empty the cabinet and match each top to its corresponding base; recycle anything that ends up without a mate. About to toss a large container?
Consider using it to hold lids.

# **FRIDGE**

Remove and discard old, half-eaten leftovers; past-its-peak produce; and expired condiments. Make a list of what you need to replace and post it on the refrigerator door for the next time you shop.

# **HANDBAG**

Dump it out and weed through the contents, trashing wrappers, nonworking pens, receipts, etc. Pile up whatever requires immediate action, like a check to be deposited.



# **GRAB AN HOUR**

Maximize those 60 minutes by tackling spaces, projects or chores that require a bit more decision-making.

# **KITCHEN**

Clear off
counters to get
them as close
to clutter-free
as possible.
Move packaged
food items
to the pantry,
put away
clean dishes,
wipe counters
and scrub
the sink.

# **SMARTPHONE**

Quickly sort through your phone's photos to delete blurry or bad shots; put good ones in "albums" so that you can easily find pics for your holiday cards and #TBTs.

# **BATHROOM**

Focus on cabinets and your cosmetics bag. Toss expired items and makeup mistakes, then arrange what's left in the order of your daily routine (e.g., face wash next to moisturizer).

# **BOOKSHELVES**

Edit the selection in your personal library and set aside any extra reads for donation. Return books to the shelves ordered by height or color for a less cluttered, more cohesive look.



# PLAN AN AFTERNOON

Make a rainy day productive by dealing with neglected areas and jobs on your endless to-do list.

# KITCHEN DRAWERS

Useless tools, worn-out pot holders, a pile of pencils... you'll be surprised at what's hiding there. Empty drawers and sort everything by category. Remove broken or duplicate items, then arrange the rest with dividers and trays.

### **BEDROOM**

Take every item out of the closet and the dresser and try it on; then place it in one of three piles — Keep, Alter or Donate. Hold on to only what's in the Keep pile, storing seasonal items, styles and colors together.

# **LINEN CLOSET**

Inspect each towel, washcloth and sheet-set component for stains, tears and general wear. Set aside worn-out pieces to use as cleaning rags or give to a local animal shelter. Refold everything to a similar size for a unified look, then put it all away.