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43 WAYS YOU'RE NOT REALLY HELPING

Is the road to hell actually paved with good intentions?
Who knows? But sometimes—just sometimes—meaning well
does not lead to doing the right thing.

Experts explain how to make matters better, not worse.

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BUYING IN BULK You're not saving money on the gallon jar of mayo unless you use it before it goes bad, says organizing expert Jeffrey Phillip: "Don't let excitement over a good deal overtake logic." If you have limited storage space, stick to bargains you deplete quickly, like toilet paper and diapers, not 24 cans of oatmeal.

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SPLURGING FIRST, ORGANIZING SECOND

You just picked up \$400 worth of storage bins. Now what? "If you start with the product, you spend money on things that don't quite fit your needs. Narrow down your belongings so you know what you need before you shop," says Phillip.