

Organizing Myths

BUSTED

The lies you may be telling yourself
about organizing your home and
how to overcome them.



Myth #1: Organizing IS EXPENSIVE

Organizing Truth #1:

You could spend THOUSANDS organizing your home, but that would be crazy! Some of my favorite organized spaces came together using extremely inexpensive materials.

In fact, one of my post pinned solutions can be replicated for PENNIES.

Do you have any clothespins lying around? What about super glue?



Clothespins and super glue create a frugal solution for storage under your kitchen sink

Add them together and attach them to a cabinet door for instant functional storage like I did [under my kitchen sink](#).

I use my gloves several times a week when I do dishes and the original clothespin is holding up really well.

Another one of my favorite organizing items can be found on sale for under \$2 each several times a year at Michael's. I use their photo boxes for pretty much everything except photos.



Watch for the "6 for \$10 sale" on photo boxes at Michael's. At \$1.67 each, they are cheap, versatile, and look great!

They are perfect for extra toiletries in [our bathroom](#).

Or for seasonal cookie cutters at the top of the [pantry](#).

While I go super frugal when I can, I have found that being willing to strategically spend a little when I have the budget for it is well worth it. I'm still not talking thousands, but buying things like the tiered spice rack in the [bathroom for the hair products \(\\$12\)](#) has been so helpful. It's a one time expense that I get use out of every single day. If there is an area of your home that makes you super-crazy, set a little money aside before organizing it. You might be able to conquer it with only super frugal solutions, but having the freedom to spend a little more in some areas will ensure you end up with the most functional space possible.

Myth #2: Organizing TAKES TOO MUCH TIME

Organizing Truth #2:

Just like #1 where you COULD spend thousands of dollars, you could spend a TON of time organizing. But the good news is that you don't have to! The key is tackling small areas each week instead of trying to attack years worth of mess all at one time.

Instead of planning to organize your entire closet at once, break it up into sections. Do the shoes one night, then purge dresses in a separate session. Try to carve out 15 minutes a week to declutter and organize small sections of your home. By the end of the year, you'll have improved 52 spaces!

For a year, I was frustrated with the [disorder under my bathroom sink](#), but I told myself I didn't have time to fix it. That was just an excuse for laziness! Once I committed to organizing the space, it took less than 30 minutes. Such a waste that I didn't do it sooner.



I put off buying pantry canisters for years, but the Flip-Tite containers from WalMart have turned out to be well worth the money.

The bins in the [pantry](#) were an item I put off buying for YEARS because it seemed too expensive. I wish I had gotten them sooner. We can see what we have, food stays fresh, and I can buy items from bulk bins saving money. I actually bought mine over several weeks, just working them into the normal WalMart/grocery budget.



I used to get agitated at the dysfunction happening under my bathroom sink daily. It only took 30 minutes to totally transform the space and eliminate the chaos.

Myth #3:

THINGS WON'T STAY Organized

Organizing Truth #3:

When organizing is done right, things DO stay organized. If you simply declutter, it's likely clutter will come back. But if you follow along with the [7 Things I Learned About Organizing My Home](#) post I shared, you WILL be able to get and KEEP your home organized.

I'm not promising magic of course, you have to do basic maintenance. Occassionaly, I'll let some small trash (usually used K-Cups!) end up on the pantry counter. It never lasts long though. After six months, the [pantry](#) is still looking great. I heard this myth so many times that I did a follow up post showing the [current state of the pantry](#) and responding to some of the critics.



Sometimes organizing takes trial and error, but when you come up with a system that works, things really can stay organized.



Think about the spots in your home that are problematic and brainstorm creative solutions.

Myth #4:

I'M NATURALLY MESSY SO I CAN'T BE Organized

Organizing Truth #4:

Sadly, I'm am a huge mess. I kick my socks off in bed and let them add up on the floor WAY too many days in a row. My nightstand is covered in water glasses. One comes in every night but one does not always go out. Usually 5 go out at once, which happens in 2 scenarios. First, sometimes no more cups will fit (and yes, I am horrified I am admitting this). Second, I collect the cups when the dishwasher is almost full and I just need a few

My desk doesn't look like this all day, every day. BUT, because everything has a home, I can straighten it up like this in 3 minutes.



more things to run it.

I tell you these things not to embarrass my mother, who IS naturally neat, but to let you know it isn't hopeless!

I figured out the key to a neat and organized house is simply having systems in place that work for you. Obviously I'm still a work in progress, but our home is working so much better for us now.

We used to have an issue with lint, clothing tags, and other small trash cluttering the laundry room because there wasn't room for a trash can. As some lovely people on the internet pointed out, it isn't HARD to walk across the house to throw it away. But that system clearly wasn't working for us because it wasn't in the natural flow of doing laundry.

Figuring out I could add a [wall-mounted bin for lint and trash](#) was a game changer. No more mess!



Do any of those myths sound like things you've been told OR that you have told yourself? I'm going to get super corny for a minute and tell you

that BELIEVING your house can be organized and work for your family is the most important step. Yes, some people are born organizers and others have to work for it. But, it's possible for everyone to start making changes to your home that really will improve your life.

Our homes should be our havens - where we escape the other stresses of life. When they are tidy, it's easier to breath and relax. Perfection every day is NOT possible. Please don't think I'm writing this from a perfect desk, in a perfect office, in a perfect home. I'm surrounded by receipts, packing supplies from Etsy orders, and some other miscellaneous stuff. BUT, because I put a system in place a few months ago, I know my [desktop](#) can look like the picture above in just a few minutes!

Organization is about progressively making your home work better for you. Don't strive for perfection in the whole house tomorrow. Instead, identify your top struggles, and work through the list one at a time. In fact, I should probably stop writing and start working on a morning routine that takes care of my bedroom cup situation :)