

Spring Cleaning

Surrounded by clutter? A professional organizer can clean up—and re-energize—your life.

THE LONG, COLD WINTER had us all locked indoors and padding our nests. (After all, who wants to drag a garbage bag full of old clothes through three feet of snow?) But now, with spring right around the corner, it's time to get up, get out, and get tidy. If you need a little support, a professional organizer and feng shui practitioner like Elsa Jewett of All in Good Order can help lighten the load. We spoke with her about how to get all the stuff under control. —Lindsey B. Koehler

How do you know if you're chronically disorganized?

When you're frustrated on a daily basis trying to do simple tasks.

Why is it important for people to get their things in order?

Your stuff is your life. You get it when you're traveling, at emotional times in your life, from special people. So everything has meaning—some good and some bad. Organizing is a way of moving the things that no longer serve you, so that new things can come in.

How often should someone organize his or her space?

Maintenance is a daily thing for the immediate space around you. Filling cabinets and such you should organize every six months.

What are areas that people could easily clean up, but don't?

One—drop zones, those flat spaces in the house where we plop stuff down. Two—home offices. People just dump piles there, and they get cluttered quickly.

If you could give people only one piece of advice, what would that be?

Trust that you'll be able to find the information you need without cluttering your house with unnecessary paper. Before [the Internet]...we had an excuse to keep files of information, because it wasn't so easy to find. Now we have all the information we need at our fingertips, and yet we still print out papers.



Elsa's Favorite Shops for Organizing Stuff

TARGET has inexpensive plastic bins for storing things in basements or attics.

COST PLUS WORLD MARKET offers attractive, Eastern-inspired trunks for storing memorabilia or stuff you need to get to (can also double as a coffee table).

SCANDINAVIAN DESIGN carries great filing cabinets for the office that work well but will also look attractive alongside your nice desk.

For more information, call All in Good Order at 303-587-5773 or visit www.allingoodorder.com



Four Local Products We're Loving This Spring

Gimme A Break
Aromatherapeutic Body Lotion
Little Moon Essentials,
Steamboat Springs

With a scent a little like a lemon bar, this all-natural lotion will change the aroma of your office/car/powder room, not to mention your mood.

To Buy: \$5, Wild Oats and Whole Foods

Breathe Tranquil Bubble Bath
Lollia, Centennial

These bubbles effervesce with hints of peony, white lily, grapefruit, and orange. Comes in a cool, slender wine bottle.

To Buy: \$36, Ela Bleu (200 Quebec St.)

Egyptian Basil & Mint Bar Soap
Pangea Organics, Boulder

The basil energizes while the mint sharpens the mind.

To Buy: \$5.49, Whole Foods, Wild Oats, and Vitamin Cottage

Enliven Babassu Sugar Rub
Inara, Boulder

Move over apricot scrub. This mixture of turbinado sugar and babassu oil gently exfoliates and conditions the skin.

To Buy: \$50, Mirabella Salon and Day Spa (10158 S. Parker Road, Parker) and St. Julien Hotel and Spa (900 Walnut St., Boulder).
—L.B.K.



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