

What's in Your Kitchen?

The key to getting organized is to not to become overwhelmed. How do you accomplish this? Easy, organize one area of your home at a time don't move to another area until you have successfully completed the previous area.

First, let's start in the kitchen. The kitchen is an area that most families spent a great deal of time in. We cook, eat, socialize, pay bills, and do homework in this area, several reasons why you want an organized kitchen. Here are some tips to getting your kitchen organized.

- Purge and toss any pots, cups, plates, and silverware that are not being used. Re-think the six sets of plates, unmatched dishes. Do you really need those plastic cups that were souvenirs? Store special dishes (china) away in a Curio or visit your local Container Store for storage containers designed for dishes.

- Separate your daily silverware from other cooking utensils; keep them in a separate drawer.

- Keep pots and pans in your lower cabinets next to the stove. Keep lids in the same cabinet for easy access.

- Throw out all chipped and cracked dishes. Don't waste time trying to repair cracked dishes unless it's a family heirloom.

- Organize upper cabinets by plates, bowls, cups, mugs, etc.

- Finally, categorize your pantry by like items-cans, cereals, pasta, beverages, etc.

As you go thru the cabinets, be honest with yourself and throw out any dishes that you hate, haven't used in the last six months or those that you simply don't have a need for. Since you are already in the mood to get organized, go ahead and wipe the cabinets down inside and out. Think of it as a late spring cleaning project. This task works best when you can devote your full attention.

Paris Love is a Professional Organizer serving Metro Atlanta and the Gulf Coast. Paris has written articles for BrownSkin Magazine, OnlineOrganizing, Home Base Quarterly and the Covington News. Currently, Paris is passing on her passion for organizing by helping others live an organized and clutter-free life™. For additional tips or information visit www.organizewithlove.com.