

# You've Done The Decluttering

## 7 Tips to Keeping Your Home Clutter-Free

Now that your home is looking and feeling great, these are tips for maintaining control. Remember as with weight, it is often easier to maintain your ideal weight than to lose extra pounds. So keep on top of your things so they no longer control you.

- 1. Establish realistic routines and try to stick with them each day.** The important thing is avoid stressing out about it. Sometimes life circumstances get out of control so just do what you can and set realistic expectations. Keep in mind that your home does not need to be magazine ready and you don't have to be a Pinterest Queen or King. Systems that work for you, will work best. The goal is comfort and productivity, not a magazine cover.
- 2. Straighten nightly and return everything to their home spaces.** Now that all your items have homes, be sure to return everything to them daily. Clear off countertops, desks, tables etc. so each morning you awake to uncluttered surfaces.
- 3. Add a few minutes to your day.** Wake 15 minutes early or limit the amount of social media, tv, electronics, etc.
- 4. Establish a task jar.** Identify quick tasks that can be accomplished in 15 minutes or less. Each day with the extra 15 minutes, grab a task from the jar and knock it off your to do list. For quick job ideas, check out *30 Things You Can Accomplish When You Set Your Wake-Up Alarm 15 Minutes Early*
- 5. Set boundaries.** Before playtime, electronics, dinner, etc., task the owners of backpacks, jackets, toys, etc. to place all items back in their designated homes. Make a game out of chores or use apps such as Choremonster.com to help make chores fun.
- 6. Minimize.** Be thoughtful and intentional about what you purchase and bring into your home. Buy and keep what you love and need. Release the things that no longer serve their purpose. Think of it as keeping your home on a diet plan.
- 7. Schedule periodic whole house purges.** Get rid of the things that no longer fit, are out of style, hold negative memories, are unrepairable, etc.

