

DECLUTTER YOUR HOME & HOMESCHOOL

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30 DAYS TO A LESS-CLUTTERED SPACE!

(And a more sane homeschool mama!)

Taking time to get rid of clutter that we no longer use (or need) is important in keeping our homes and homeschools organized. In doing so, we can more easily focus our minds on other things we love and want to do.

I hope these checklists are a blessing to you and your kids as you work together to organize and clean your home and homeschool space! Remember that just a few consistent efforts each day can make a big difference.



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Tips for Success

If you're feeling overwhelmed by clutter in your home and homeschool, this 30-day challenge is for you! Purging items you no longer use or need (and organizing what you do) can help you feel less stressed and better prepared for each day. You can spend time doing what you love instead of managing "things", and you'll find that your homeschool may run more efficiently when you aren't distracted by clutter and disorganization.

This 30-day checklist is an easy way to get started with decluttering. You'll learn how to cut down on clutter in small doses, in a short amount of time (I get it - I'm a busy mom too!).

Simply commit to 20 minutes each day in the designated area. The areas listed should help you take control of spots around your home and homeschool area that tend to accumulate clutter, but it is really just a guideline. If you find one of the areas does not apply to you, feel free to choose another task for that day, or split a larger task into two days.

During your allotted 20 minutes, tidy up the suggested space, and make sure everything in that area has a "home". Grab a trash bag and be prepared to get rid of anything you no longer need or use. You might throw things away, decide to sell or donate some items, or move them to a space in a new room. I also recommend having your favorite dusters or cleaning rags handy so you can quickly clean the area you declutter.

The following questions may help you make some hard decisions in terms of whether or not to keep an item:

- Do I regularly use this? (When was the last time I used this?)
- Would I be ok if I didn't have this anymore? (Could I move on with my life?)
- Could someone else use this more than me?
- Is this broken and unusable? (If so do I plan on fixing it anytime soon?)
- Does this have missing parts? (If so am I going to replace them?)
- Do I actually want to keep this, or do I feel obligated to?
- Am I saving this for some sort of *potential* future use? Is it something I could purchase or acquire in the future easily if I actually *do* need it?
- What's the worst thing that will happen if I get rid of this? (And is it really that bad?)
- Do I have more than one of this? Do I need both?

I hope that this challenge is a great kickstart in decluttering and organizing your home, and that you will form some great habits that will help eliminate stress for months to come!



HOME & HOMESCHOOL DECLUTTER CHALLENGE

For each day this month, spend 20 minutes completing the daily declutter task listed below. Once you've completed the task, tick the relevant day's checkbox.

Day 1 - Kitchen Counters	Day 16 - Junk Drawer
Day 2 - Breakfast & Dining Tables	Day 17 - Bathroom Surfaces
Day 3 - Kitchen Cabinets	Day 18 - Medicine Cabinets
Day 4 - Pantry	Day 19 - Linen Closet
Day 5 - Living Rooms	Day 20 - Kid's Closets Day 1
Day 6 - Coat Closet	Day 21 - Kid's Closets Day 2
Day 7 - Entryway and Hallways	Day 22 - Bedroom Surfaces
Day 8 - Storage Closets	Day 23 - Sock & Underwear Drawers
Day 9 - School Desk Spaces	Day 24 - Master Dresser Drawers
Day 10 - Books & Bookshelves	Day 25 - Master Bedroom Closet
Day 11 - Art Supplies	Day 26 - Kid's Toy Boxes/Bins Day 1
Day 12 - Cleaning Supplies	Day 27 - Kid's Toy Boxes/Bins Day 2
Day 13 - Old Curriculum	Day 28 - Craft Area
Day 14 - Computer Files	Day 29 - Laundry Room
Day 15 - File Cabinets	Day 30 - Homeschool Bus (a.k.a. Car)

Declutter with Kids

Once you make it through your own declutter checklist, take 30 days to do one with your kids, too (or have them complete theirs right alongside you each day). You'll teach them good habits in taking care of their belongings, and have a clean, less-cluttered space to enjoy.

Use the Kids Challenge Checklist at least two times a year. Do it with your kids, and don't take it too seriously. Check off tasks as you go, but if you don't get them all done in one day, it's ok. Use it as a reminder for what you have tackled and what you still need to accomplish.

And, as always, prizes go a long way in motivating kids to accomplish their tasks! Set a reward like a movie night or a special dinner once the whole checklist is accomplished.

Here are a few more tips for decluttering with your kids:

- **Set a Timer**: If your kids are overwhelmed by a large task at hand, break it into small chunks of time. Set a timer for 10 minutes (for example), and see how much you can accomplish in that amount of time. Repeat the next day until the whole space is decluttered.
- **Pick a number:** Choose a space and have everyone pick out a certain number of things to either pick up, donate, or throw out (you choose, depending on your goal for your space!)
- **Throw a sale:** Help them get excited about getting rid of old toys and clothes by helping them make some money! Organize a garage sale or help them sell locally online.
- **Be consistent.** Create good daily habits by doing a little bit each day, and be amazed at the progress you'll make over time!



Markers	Games	Closet Floor
Crayons	Puzzles	Clothes
Pencils	Toys in Play Areas (Day 1)	☐ Bedroom Drawers
Paints & Brushes	Toys in Play Areas (Day 2)	☐ Dresser Top
Drawing Papers	Kitchen Cups	Shoes
Sticker Sheets	☐ Water Bottles	Toys in Bedroom Day 1
Bookbags	Coats & Jackets	Toys in Bedroom Day 2
School Desk Area	Bookshelves	Books in Bedroom
Old Artwork	Tub Toys	Tidy & Clean
Coloring Books	Hair Accessories	Tidy & Clean