

12 Basic Organizing Tips Clothing

Out with the old. In with the new.

1. Analyze how much space you have.

Measure. Do you have room for another clothing rod? Space for more shelves for accessories? Hooks for hats or scarves? This will help determine how much you will need to weed.

2. Start by pulling clothes out of the closet so you can see them.

Do a section of your closet at a time to avoid being overwhelmed.

3. Try on everything.

If a piece of clothing makes you feel good, *keep* it. If you can no longer fit into it, set it aside for *donation*. If the item is stained, *toss* it. If an article needs to be mended, decide if it is worth it. If you are unsure, put it into a pile and look at it later.

4. Be Ruthless. Weed. Weed. Weed.

A good rule of thumb is if you haven't worn a garment in a year, consider letting of it. Sort your clothes into piles: keep, donate, toss. Have large garbage bags available to discard the clothes you no longer want. Put aside the clothes you want to donate or gift to others.

5. Only put clothes you want to wear back into the closet.

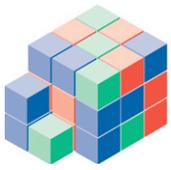
Take clothes that need to be mended or cleaned to the tailor or cleaner right away.

6. Sort and group like garments together in your closet.

Categories might include tops, jackets, pants, suits, dresses. Colored hangers can help organize types of garments and are attractive in a closet.

7. Hang clothes facing you.

Consider putting the clothes you wear most often in the front of your closet.



8. Keep empty hangers together at one end of your clothing rod.

When you remove a piece of clothing from the closet, put the hanger at the end so when you want a hanger you can find one.

9. Purchase hangers that are uniform and serve the purpose that you need.

Container stores feature special hangers to prevent slippage, to consolidate pants, blouses, belts, and a number of other items. Remember to return extra wire hangers to the cleaners.

10. Store seasonal clothes.

Put off-season clothing in another closet or off premises at your cleaners or a storage facility.

11. Organize shoes

Discard shoes that don't fit or are too worn to be repaired. Repair those that are still useable. Purchase hanging shoe bags, racks or clear shoe boxes so you can see what you have.

12. Containerize accessories

Shelf baskets and fabric boxes can store handbags, socks or scarves. Label the containers so you know what you have. Shelf dividers are great if you keep piles of clothes in the closet, such as sweaters.

Ask for help! Find a clutter buddy.

For further information go to www.simplesolutionsny.com or send an e-mail to Susan Kranberg at susan@simplesolutionsny.com