ROOM BY ROOM · ENTRYWAY

How to Organize the Front Closet

How to clear the front closet so coats, shoes and bags each have a place.

WHERE TO START

Take everything out, down to the last glove, before you decide anything.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- ☐ Four boxes or totes
- ☐ Vacuum or broom
- ☐ Wooden hangers
- ☐ Baskets and hooks

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Put the time on your calendar like any other appointment. One room per session is plenty.

The method

1. **Set up four boxes**
   Label them Toss, Donate, Keep and Relocate. Every item goes into one of them, so nothing ends up in a new pile.
2. **Empty it completely**
   Take everything out and set it on a cleared table or counter. You can't organize around things you haven't seen.
3. **Clean before anything goes back**
   Wipe the shelves, drawers and surfaces and sweep the floor while the space is empty.
4. **Group like with like**
   Sort what you're keeping into families. Seeing all of one kind together shows you how much you really have.
5. **Give every family a home**
   What you use most goes closest to hand. Add containers and labels only once you know what stays.
6. **Close the session**
   Take out the trash, put the donations in your car and return every Relocate item to its room before you stop.

In this room

Ask how often

How often do you use each item? Only what you use here stays here.

Quality hangers

Matching wooden hangers hold coats better and make the closet look calm.

Baskets and hooks

Small accessories go in baskets, and bags hang from hooks.

KEEP IT THAT WAY

Put a date on your calendar to clear out the closet each season.

ONE THING TO REMEMBER

Finish at the front door: sweep the porch and think about a fresh new mat.

YOUR CHECKLIST IS ON THE NEXT PAGE

More tips and photos in the full post: read it here

ROOM BY ROOM · ENTRYWAY · CHECKLIST

The Front Closet Checklist

STARTED _____ DONE _____

- [ ] Remove everything from the closet: coats, gear, shoes, scarves, gloves and bags. Completely clear the space.
- [ ] Sweep or vacuum the closet floor and wipe down any shelving.
- [ ] Sort through the pile and see what belongs here and what can be rehomed to another area. How often do you use each item?
- [ ] Think of the best way to use the space you have. Invest in quality wooden hangers for coats, and see where baskets or hooks can add storage.
- [ ] Hang the coats, put small accessories in baskets on the shelves or the closet floor, and hang bags neatly from hooks.
- [ ] To keep this area neat and organized, mark your calendar for a date when you'll clear it out each season.
- [ ] To finish the front of the house, sweep and neaten your front porch or entryway. Consider a fresh new entry mat.

NOTES

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