

Day 18: Kids, Teens & Guest Rooms

Children's rooms can be one of the most challenging rooms to not only organize... but keep that way. And much depends on the child's age. Some are natural-born organizers, others are direct opposites.

However, one thing I learned with my now teenager, is to make it fun. Putting away toys, hanging up clothes, tidying up their room -- all of it. Make it a game, and reward often. Don't allow unclean rooms and disorganized closets and toys become stumbling blocks in your relationship with your child.



Checklist

Objective: To organize kids rooms by teaching age-appropriate organizational behavior and/or outfit a guest room.

- Create a Put-Away Box, a Donation Box and gather several trash bags.
- Remove all items that belong in other rooms and deposit into the Put Away Box.
- With the child's help (age appropriate), quickly sort through all items in the room and determine whether to keep, toss or donate.
- Determine if there is another room to store toys.
- For the items that will be kept in the room, create functional storage bins, baskets, etc., and label everything!
- Clean the room thoroughly and launder all bed linens. Vacuum all corners and under the bed.
- If necessary, rearrange furniture to either create more floor space, study space or flow space for guests.
- Repeat steps with the closet, putting away items that belong in other rooms, eliminating clothing that is either worn out or no longer fits. Create easy-access functional storage for items stored in the closet.

Tomorrow: Family Bathrooms