



**Innovatively Organized LLC**  
Professional Organizing Services  
info@innovativelyorganized.com  
206.494.9982  
www.innovativelyorganized.com

## **REUSE: FIND NEW USES FOR OLD THINGS!**

Being organized has great personal benefits. You can easily find things, save time and money, and become incredibly productive. Getting organized can have great environmental benefits as well. By following the three Rs (reduce, reuse, recycle), you'll use fewer natural resources, discover new uses for old things, and find fresh homes for your castoffs. Tackle the second "R" -- reuse -- by finding creative new uses for your things. It's not only environmentally friendly, it's fun and allows you to stay organized!

**Make old furniture new again.** A can of colorful spray paint can liven up an old picture frame. A coat of glossy paint can transform an old dresser into something new and fabulous.

**Hold a clothing swap with friends.** Invite some pals to a clothing exchange party. Have each person bring 5-10 items she no longer wears, and swap them over music and hors d'oeuvres. Everyone leaves with a free new wardrobe! Send the leftovers to a local charity.

**Shop smart.** When you need something, consider buying it used at a secondhand store. You can find everything from upscale clothing to furniture, books, building supplies, and more.

**Rotate toys.** If you have kids, send Barbie on a vacation for a while, let the stuffed animals hibernate, and let some games take a time-out. Bring those toys out a few months later and they'll seem like new.

**Find new uses for disposable items.** Visit [www.makestuff.com](http://www.makestuff.com) for fun projects to make with reused materials, such as old film canisters, CD jewel cases, and baby food jars.

**Create your own organizing containers.** Rather than spend tons of money on plastic organizing bins, drawer dividers, and wicker baskets, reinvent common household items: The small boxes that your checks come in make great drawer dividers. Oatmeal boxes nicely hold art supplies like crayons and pencils. An ice cube tray neatly divides earrings or holds desk supplies like paper clips and tacks. Look around your home and see what inspires you!

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