



November 2011 Facebook Tips



*Magically Organized is proud to present...
All of November's tips in one place—
Use it as a checklist to get you, your life and your home more organized.
Share this list with family & friends!*

1st - Halloween is over and before you blink, Thanksgiving will be upon us. Begin preparations now so that you won't feel overwhelmed on the big day. Some things that you can do ahead of time -- invite your guests either via phone or mail, determine your menu, allow your guests to bring some of the items on the menu (if they offer), prepare items that can be made now and freeze them (pies for example).

2nd - With the current price of gas, this tip is more important than ever--be sure to plan your errands in a logical sequence so as not to be going back and forth across town. Also be sure to have everything you need with you so that you don't waste a trip.

3rd - When you are putting away your Halloween decorations and taking out your Thanksgiving ones, be sure to trash any of them that have seen better days. Also consider donating any that you have that you won't be using any more, but are still in good shape.

4th - Get yourself organized for 2012. If you use a desk or wall calendar or planner, now is the time to purchase it. If you're digital, make sure you have the most up-to-date version on your hand-held device. No matter what kind of calendar you use, be sure to record all important dates to start off your 2012 in a stress-free way.

5th - No tip posted.

6th - No tip posted.

7th - 15 minute organizing week! Take 15 minutes and clean out your junk drawer. Empty it completely, throw out the trash. Remove items that shouldn't be there and put them in their appropriate home. Put all the pens and notepads together. Keep the keys all in one place. Sort the other small items (paper clips, rubber bands, etc.) into containers. You can use empty checkbook boxes and small jewelry boxes to divide up the drawer. It will be an inexpensive way to keep your items sorted and easier to find.

8th - 15 minute organizing -- empty out the meat and vegetable drawers of your fridge/freezer. Trash anything that is freezer bit or yucky. Use up any items that are getting close to their expiration date in tonight's dinner. Wash out the drawers with mild detergent and replace the remaining items.

9th - 15 minute organizing -- coat closet! Empty out everything inside. Anything that doesn't fit and/or wasn't worn last season is just taking up unnecessary space. Donate it! So many people are in need of a warm coat. Anything that is left should be sorted either by season or by family member. Be sure to use sturdy wooden hangers to hold the heavy coats. Store hats, gloves and scarves in baskets within reach of all family members (maybe on the floor of the closet) so that everyone can help themselves and put their own stuff away.

10th - 15 minute organizing -- craft clear-out! Go through your children's or your crafts and dispose of or donate items that either no longer interest you or are no longer age-appropriate. This will free up space for learning and doing new crafts and provide those in need (local schools or libraries) with much needed supplies.

11th - 15 minute organizing -- Tupperware type containers. Take some time to empty out the cabinet or drawer where you keep these storage containers. If any have a white residue, trash them, they are no longer safe to use. Also, match up each container with its lid. If there is no lid, trash the container. Finally, nest the containers one inside the next as your space allows. Use one or two of the larger containers to hold all of the lids.

12th - No tip posted.

13th - No tip posted.

14th - How do I get rid of this?? Tip week-- Ever wonder what to do with old medications? Some police stations will take them at annual collection events. Also, Walgreens, Rite Aid, Kroger & Winn-Dixie all participate in the Safe Medication Disposal Program which you can read about

here: http://www.walgreens.com/topic/sr/sr_safe_medication_disposal.jsp

15th - What do I do with an old American flag? Most VFW halls will have a disposal container for old flags. Flags should never be thrown in the trash; check with local VFW clubs near you for disposal of your worn out Old Glory.

16th - What do I do with old eyeglasses? Lions Club will take your donation of old eyeglasses. Many grocery stores, libraries and eye doctor's offices have drop boxes to collect them. However, if there isn't a drop box near you, you can mail them to Lions Club. Follow this link for all of the information www.lionsclubs.org.

17th - What do I do with perfume/cologne that I don't like or no longer wear? Of course, you can just throw it out, but why waste it. Many shelters will be happy to take your unwanted perfume, lotions, deodorants, etc. and provide them to their women/men in need.

18th - How do I get rid of old batteries? It's not a good idea to just throw out old batteries in your household trash. The best bet is to recycle them. Most Target stores have a recycle bin just for that purpose. Oh, by the way, they also have recycle bins for plastic bags, ink cartridges and cell phones!

19th - No tip posted.

20th - No tip posted.

21st - When organizing any space, be sure to put things near their place of use. In other words, just because it may seem odd to keep your phone book in a kitchen cabinet, if that is near where your phone is, that's where you should keep it. Another example may be that you keep your candles in a closet near the front door, because you burn candles on an entryway table, so that's where you should keep the extras. Remember, there is no right or wrong place to store items as long as it makes sense to you as a logical "home" for it.

22nd - This time of year can get overwhelming with the amount of catalogs that start to arrive in the mail. Even if you've taken yourself off of mailing lists by visiting www.thcdma.org they will start to arrive hoping for your order. Consider recycling them as soon as you receive them. Or at the very least, only keep those that are true possibilities for great gifts.

23rd - I always recommend donating your unwanted items, if at all possible, rather than just trashing them. It's better to be able to help out those in need, get a tax write-off and not add to the landfills. Now, donating just got even better...Goodwill now offers what they are calling iDonate. You can track your donation history online at www.goodwillnj.org --pretty amazing stuff!

24th - Happy Thanksgiving!! I am so grateful to all of you. Be safe and enjoy your family, friends, and food.

25th - While doing your Black Friday shopping today, be sure to map out a plan. You'll want to be sure to shop in the order that not only makes sense geographically, but also makes sense dependent upon which time the sales end. Have fun and be safe!

26th - No tip posted.

27th - No tip posted.

28th - If you have the time, clean up your front yard and flower beds before putting out your holiday decorations. It will help to make the decorating go more smoothly -- decorations will sit more evenly on a cleaned up base and evened out bushes will allow for better light distribution. Also, your decorations will not get as dirty if all of the decaying leaves are removed first.

29th - Another time saving tip -- this may sound like common sense, but sometimes in the excitement of the holiday, it gets forgotten. Take the time to test the lights before you put them on the tree or set out decorations on your lawn. There is no sense in spending all of that time decorating only to find that the lights no longer work or are faulty in some way.

30th - Christmas Shopping Tip -- before you go out to purchase gifts, be sure to have your list ready. Check all of the stores sales flyers and make out your plan of attack. Do not go around and roam aimlessly, you will spend a ton more money. Also, be sure to continue to watch the sales ads even after you buy. You can go back to stores to get adjustments (money back) or Wal-Mart will even match the other competitor's price (check their site for exact details).