



## September 2011 Facebook Tips

*Magically Organized is proud to present...*

*All of September's tips in one place —*

*Use it as a checklist to get you, your life and your home more organized.*

1<sup>st</sup> - Before packing up all of your outdoor furniture, be sure that everything is wiped down and free of debris. If you pack it up dirty, you will have a much larger job come next spring.

2<sup>nd</sup> - How many plastic bags does one person really need? I see this problem more than any other one...people keep way too many. Yes, they can be used for great things--small trash can liners, litter box clean outs, picking up after your pooch, etc. However, you don't need to be overrun with them. A good rule of thumb is one plastic bag full of plastic bags is plenty. It will be the rare occasion that you will use all that you have before the next shopping trip.

3<sup>rd</sup> - No tip posted.

4<sup>th</sup> - No tip posted.

5<sup>th</sup> - Happy Labor Day!

6<sup>th</sup> - Now that school is starting up, be sure to have plenty of snacks on hand -- ones for the lunches, ones for after school and ones for unexpected class party donations

7<sup>th</sup> - "Remember, only new habits can rescue you..." --from 'Making Peace with the Things in Your Life' by Cindy Glovinsky

8<sup>th</sup> - Were you as organized this week getting your kids off to school as you had hoped? If not, no worries, there is always tomorrow. Help yourself and your kids by preparing the night before -- lunches made, clothes picked out, and backpacks by the door. It will help so much in the new school year frenzy!

9<sup>th</sup> - Where has the summer gone? Before you know it, the holidays will be here. Set your budget now so that you don't regret over spending later.

10<sup>th</sup> - No tip posted.

11<sup>th</sup> - Never forget -- 9/11/01 -- God bless America!

12<sup>th</sup> - Have your kids started having homework yet? Be sure to have a specific place for them to sit each day to do their work. Make sure they have all of the needed supplies readily available. Also, be sure to have a set time each day that they do their work. Having habits in place will help to make a routine and make less stress for homework time.

13<sup>th</sup> - Organize and purge your medicine cabinet at least 2x per year. Be sure to dispose of any outdated medications, old cosmetics and anything that you are unsure of the expiration date. While the cabinet is empty, wipe it down with a soft cloth. Then return the "keepers" in an order that is logical for you (e.g., first aid items together, lotions and ointments together, etc.).

14<sup>th</sup> - If you live in the Northeast of the US, it will soon be a great time to aerate, dethatch and/or seed your lawn. If your lawn took a beating this summer, consider getting yourself organized and scheduled to do this task or to have someone come and do it for you. Schedule it now before it gets too cold and you will reap the rewards come Spring.

15<sup>th</sup> - Organize a go bag or crate for your trunk. You may want to include such things as jumper cables, road flares, a bag of kitty litter, water, a blanket and a first aid kit.

16<sup>th</sup> - Organize your thoughts - don't let them ramble around your head... Write them down on paper or leave yourself a voicemail.

17<sup>th</sup> - No tip posted.

18<sup>th</sup> - No tip posted.

19<sup>th</sup> - Organizing your menu for the week can save you money, calories and time. Some ideas -- make double of whatever you are making so that you can either have it a second night for leftovers or freeze it for a quick meal during another week, prepare extra meat during one meal's preparation so that your meat will already be cooked for another evening, use leftovers from one meal to develop another.

20<sup>th</sup> - Organizing for a party, doesn't end when the party is over. Be sure to schedule time to thoroughly clean when the party is over and to send thank you notes.

21<sup>st</sup> - Everyone always thinks Spring for major cleaning, but Fall can be a major cleaning time as well. Some tasks you may want to get done before winter are -- removing window screens, cleaning carpets, having your gutters cleaned out, and trimming loose or low branches.

22<sup>nd</sup> - Help your kids to be more organized by having them straighten up their room each evening before bed and/or before they go out to play--15 minutes each day should do the trick. Initially the 15 minutes might not put a dent in the mess, but eventually there will be a big payoff.

23<sup>rd</sup> - Too much stuff can actually create a physical barrier between you and what's really important. -- "It's All Too Much" by Peter Walsh

24<sup>th</sup> - No tip posted.

25<sup>th</sup> - No tip posted.

26<sup>th</sup> - When you are sorting, be sure not to be extremely specific, use generalities instead. You will end up with too many categories if you get very specific. For example, place all writing instruments in one pile; there is no need to separate the pens, pencils, mechanical pencils, etc.

27<sup>th</sup> - "Where is my this?" "Where is my that?" -- If you have kids, you hear this several times throughout the day. Help kids to become responsible for their own things by helping them to get in the habit of putting things away in the same spot each time they are through using it. This will allow them to not only keep track of their own items, but will save you a lot of grief!

28<sup>th</sup> - When storing away clothes, be sure to pack them in plastic tubs. Zip lock bags will also do the trick. Never store them in cardboard if, at all possible, because it absorbs dampness and invites pests.

29<sup>th</sup> - A follow-up to yesterday's tip...when storing clothes, also be sure to sort them by size and gender. Label the side of the bin and the top so that easy retrieval is possible when you are in need of that particular size/gender. Several sizes can be placed in one bin, just separate them by using zipper bags for each size.

30<sup>th</sup> - No tip posted.