

Chaotic Times

Organised Chaos Newsletter

"Helping you to
clear clutter and
feel -

Better!"

Issue 2 - April 2009
'Gardening'

Dear Friends of Organised Chaos

I hope you enjoyed the first edition of **Chaotic Times**

By the time you read this we will officially be enjoying British Summertime. What the weather might be doing is of course another matter!

The theme for this edition is 'gardening' and I'm sure lots of you are already planning summer bedding for your patios and window boxes. If you are a keen gardener you will be buying seeds and nurturing them into growth, but even if you don't consider yourself to be green fingered you probably do own a garden shed!



I remember my Grandad's shed quite clearly, it smelt strongly of creosote and was pitch dark inside. It was home to lots of spiders and in rather a muddle. Quite scary actually!

Sheds can easily become cluttered. If you've spent hours slaving in the garden then you're hardly likely to have the enthusiasm to tidy your shed at the end of the day.

I would like to suggest to you that a tidy shed makes for much more satisfying gardening. How many times have you lost your secateurs or not been able to find the right sized plant pot?

Most people's sheds are quite small, so de-cluttering need not be an onerous task.

Choose a fine day and completely empty your shed of its contents. You might be surprised at what you find. Group the contents into separate piles. When you've given the shed a sweep out it's time to decide what goes back inside!



You will no doubt have a selection of the following:

Plant pots
Hand tools
Seed trays
Watering cans
Garden twine
Garden canes / plant supports
Wheel barrow
Various cartons and sprays
Lawn mower



Be ruthless - do you need all those plant pots? Many garden centres will happily take your excess and recycle them. Sort the remainder into different sizes so they're easier to find.

If any of your tools are broken or your watering can has a hole in it then it's time for them to go! Make sure you dispose of unwanted pesticides and fertilizers responsibly - check the packaging and do not tip contents down the drain.

Most sheds have shelves down at least one side, so make good use of these. With the exception of the larger tools, keep the floor clear so you can reach right into the back without having to stretch.



It makes sense to keep the things you use most often at the front near the door. For me that's my gardening gloves and secateurs.

If there's not enough shelf space then improvise.

A series of nails knocked into the frame of the shed will be useful for hanging tools. This prevents them from all falling over when you attempt to extract the one at the back!

Equally, garden canes and the like are best tied in a bundle until needed. If your shed is reasonably spacious consider buying free standing shelving from a DIY store such as B&Q or Homebase.

At least if everything in your shed is tidy it will be easy to find and easier to put away - thereby giving you more valuable gardening time.

If you don't have room for a shed or need to store children's bikes, patio furniture and barbeques etc, it is possible to buy a storage chest for outdoor use. This will keep your summer equipment dry and clean until it is needed. Some double up as a garden bench which makes excellent use of limited space.



This version is available from Argos for the price of £68.49. See www.argos.co.uk

The Keter Bench Box is made of plastic and is packed flat for home assembly. There are several favourable reviews on the Argos website implying that it is roomy, easy to construct and good value for money. It weighs 13K and measures:
H 86cm x W 135cm x D56cm.

Similar items are available from most garden centres and DIY stores.

Well, I hope this garden themed issue has given you some ideas.

*Best regards,
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