

Chaotic Times

Organised Chaos Newsletter

"Helping you to
clear clutter and
feel -

Better!"

Issue 10 - December 2009

'Clutter-free Christmas!'

Dear Friends of Organised Chaos



Welcome to the Christmas edition of **Chaotic Times**!

To kick off I thought early December would be a good time to give out a few tips for a clutter-free Christmas. OK, so clutter-free might be asking a bit much, but there are steps you can take to keep festive clutter to a minimum. Christmas can be a stressful time so it makes sense not to add to this by surrounding yourself in clutter.



Top Tips for a Calmer, Clutter-Free Christmas!

1. Cut down on unwanted gifts. Ask your nearest and dearest what they'd like - be sure to give them your list!
2. Remember where you've stored Christmas presents, and who you've bought for - use lists and labels.
3. Less is more. Your house doesn't need to look like Santa's Grotto in order to be festive. Decorations take up valuable storage space for 99% of the year.
4. Get your kids to part with broken/outgrown toys and games *before* Christmas.
5. Buying too much food and drink for the festive period means kitchen cupboards will be overloaded and muddled. If you get your kitchen organised in advance, cooking for your guests will be much less stressful.

Hopefully these pointers have given you food for thought.

Of course if Great Aunt Ada has threatened to come and stay and your spare room looks like a war zone, then you may need my help. There's only so much you can achieve on your own in a short space of time without resorting to valium!





Most families like to decorate their homes for the Christmas period. Whether you favour a simple minimalist scheme or something more dazzling there is always the issue of how to store it all once Twelfth Night is upon us.

Many clients rely on an assortment of tatty boxes or bags, which just aren't up to the job. Maybe your decorations are gathering dust in the loft or getting squashed at the back of a cupboard?

It's bad enough having to check the Christmas tree lights are still working, without finding your tree baubles are smashed and your wrapping paper is dog eared! Worse still, can you actually remember where you put it all?

The picture above is one family's heap of Christmas decorations and the picture to the right shows them contained in two Really Useful Boxes.



The 22L box is specially designed to hold about ten rolls of wrapping paper. With a locking lid you know your paper will stay pristine! This box costs £12.00.

The 35L box is ideal for all your streamers, tinsel etc. The box is priced at £12.50. Divided trays are available at £5 each and will contain either 12 or 16 baubles or tree decorations. Think of it as a giant egg box!

Clients and networking colleagues can purchase boxes direct from me. Boxes would make a useful Christmas present, and don't forget **Organised Chaos Gift Vouchers** for someone who has too much of everything!

New Year's Eve will soon be upon us, so why not make a resolution this year to be more organised? Try to be specific.



Don't be too tough on yourself. Setting a New Year's Resolution which is unrealistic will just make you feel more out of control.

If you make the resolution in front of others at a New Year's Eve party you might get lots of help and support - or lots of nagging. Think carefully before you 'go public'.

My advice is to break the task down into stages. Something like, "Once a week I will spend 2 hours de-cluttering the spare room." Or maybe you prefer, "My spare room will be ready for Aunt Ada by 1st June." Clutter takes a long time to accumulate, it's unlikely to be a quick job clearing it. Write your resolution on a large sheet of paper. Stick it on the wall where you'll see it every day. You'll be surprised at what you can achieve!

Finally, I'm pleased to announce that **Testimonials** from some of my lovely clients are now available to view on the website. Click [here](#) to have a read!

Well, enjoy the festive season and don't forget to use 1st January as an impetus for a less cluttered 2010.

*Best regards,
Judith*

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