

# TIPS FOR ORGANIZING YOUR KID'S CLOSET

Simplify your child's closet before adding this year's school clothes.

## PURGE BEFORE YOU PURCHASE

Before you order a bunch of new clothes for the upcoming school year, take time to purge your children's current clothes to make room for the new ones.

- ☐ Start by taking each piece of clothing out of the closet and check if it still fits your child. For the items that no longer fit, you can consider a few options:
  - ☐ Do you save the items for one of your younger children who may fit into it next year? Set aside to store in another location in your home.
  - ☐ Do you have a family member or friend with a child who would fit the items? Create a pile, reach out to them and give them a deadline for coming to look through the clothing. If they don't come by the deadline, add those clothes to your donation pile.
  - ☐ Do you want to donate them so another child can make use of them? Create a pile and then either place the bag of clothing in your car to drop off at your nearest donation center, or schedule a date with a local charity that provides a pick-up service (i.e., the Veterans or Salvation Army).
- ☐ Follow the same process as above to go through all the shoes and miscellaneous items in your child's closet. There may be hats, belts and other accessories that need to be sorted through.

*Your*  
**Tasks**  
*Our*  
**Time**  
Organizing Your Life One Task at a Time

## PLAN OUT ORGANIZING SOLUTIONS

Once you have sorted all the items in the closet, you can then do an inventory of what you have and see what you still need to buy for the school year. You will also see how much space you have for new items.

- ☐ **Hanging Space** – Hang the clothes you are keeping in a way that is easiest for you or your child to find things when needed. For some, it may be easiest to hang entire outfits together. For others, it may be simpler to sort according to the type of clothing. For example, hanging all long-sleeve shirts together and all pants together.  
NOTE: If you need additional hanging space, you may consider adding some hooks on the interior of the door or along any open wall space to give yourself more room for storage.
- ☐ **Shelf Space** – If you have any shelves or cubbies, you can use them for folded items or miscellaneous items contained in baskets or bins. Off-season or seldom used items can go on the top shelf since your child will not need to access them often.
- ☐ **Shoe Storage** – One common storage solution is to store shoes on the bottom of the closet, either lined up along the floor or on a shoe rack or in a basket. If you need the floor space to store other items, like toys or accessories, you may want an over-the-door shoe organizer.  
NOTE: An over-the-door shoe organizer can be used for items other than shoes. They can also hold small stuffed animals, socks and under garments, art supplies, etc.
- ☐ **Accessories** – If you need to store accessories, there are several options depending on the type of accessory. There are hangers specifically designed to hold belts or ties that take up little space on the hanging bar. Bins or baskets are also a good option. Look at exactly which items need to be stored to figure out how many bins you need and to determine which size bin is best. Be sure to label the bins so your child knows exactly what is in each bin to help them know where to put things back. For younger kids who can't read yet, label with pictures instead of words.

## GET YOUR KIDS INVOLVED

- ☐ Let your kids be part of the process. Let them participate in the purging process and allow them to have a say in what organizing solution would work best for them.