



## Hello, Friends!

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### Organize Your Entryway

How do you prefer to enter your home?

When you come through the door, do you have somewhere to set your items, or do you choose to set things on the floor? Does it bother you to see a lot of clutter when you first walk in?

I like to pretend that I enter my house like a guest, and I try to visualize what others see through their eyes.

Here are several things I think of that can be helpful:

First, it's a great idea to have a designated place to set your keys, be it on a plate or key organizer. Next, it's helpful to have another place to set your mail / other items for the short-term. This can be a shallow tray or plate.

Now, I would look at the closet near the front door. Do you have room to hang a few extra coats if visitors stop in? I've been in a number of houses where that front closet has no room or extra hangers for the guests, so keep that in mind while you are working on improving your entryway's usefulness.

I also like to have a mirror close by, so people arriving or leaving can do that last-minute check on their make-up and outfit.

Now that it is spring time, it's an opportunity to remove your winter coats, hats, gloves and boots and put them away in storage. Group them together and match all your gloves now, so when you need them, you have them. It might also be a good idea to see if anything needs to be laundered before you put it away for the season.

If you don't have a closet, there is nothing wrong with using hooks and perhaps a bench to anchor the room. Then you can have enough room for the rain boots or an extra pair of shoes that always seem to multiply under the bench.

But, keep your collection of shoes in your bedroom closet. You don't need any extra tripping hazards out in your entryway, right?

I also like to keep a few extra umbrellas in my front closet for family or guests, if needed. That's a thoughtful way to help reduce the impact of rain, wind or a storm.

It's also helpful to keep a flashlight there in case you lose power — you'll know where it is and you can put your hands on it quickly and easily. It's very smart to double-check the flashlight batteries as each new season begins, too.

Just wanted to let you know that I will be presenting at the Royal Oak Library on Monday, May 20th at 6:30pm. Here is the link to register <http://rop1.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=1136&backTo=Calendar&startDate=2019/05/01>

I hope you see some of you there!

Your local professional organizer,

Betty Huotari

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