



June 2014 – Where are the matching pillowcases?

Are you ready to dig into your linen closet? I know once mine is organized, I feel so much better. I hate it when I try to pull out one towel and three come tumbling out with it. Has that ever happened to you?

Here are some great tips for taming the tangle of sheets in your linen closet:

The first thing I do is delegate the shelves to certain things. For Instance, I find it easier to put the king linens on a separate shelf than the queen linens. Then, I group together the beach towels, guest towels and then the extra towels our family may use.

You have to ask yourself “How many linens do I need for each bed?” If you are tight on space, I would have one or two sets available in the linen closet. If you have to keep a few more you can place them in a clear tub, label it and store it with the other blankets and pillows. (I know a few families who have large gatherings during holiday times or even in the summer and may need their extra linens at that time.) I’ve learned in working with many clients over the years that people keep linens from 20 years ago, with tears, stains, mismatched pillow cases etc... Then they wonder why they don’t have room for their new linens/towels. If you’re not going to use it, clear it out. You will be amazed at the space you will create.

Here is a great video to help you fold sheets, <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EVu1nBNKnWY>. Some families will use a pillow case and place the fitted and flat sheet and the other pillowcase into it, so everything stays together. I just put my pillowcases above my flat and fitted linen so they are grouped together, but after watching this video, I may change my folding. Who says you can’t teach an old dog new tricks?

You also have to consider your space for towels/facecloths. What amount do you have room for and how often do people change towels and do laundry? That will help you determine the amount of towels that you need to keep. If you train your family into hanging their towels once they’ve used them, they could easily use the same towel the next day. That could cut your laundry in half!

If you have a larger linen closet, you may also choose to keep your extra medication, candles, batteries, light bulbs in this area too. Again, it depends on the closet and how many shelves you have. I use old shoe boxes to group like things together. In my linen closet, I have wired shelving, so the shoeboxes work well in the space making it easy to remove a box and not 30 individual items.

In next month’s newsletter we will deal with the laundry room. Send me your questions for dealing with laundry rooms and I will try to answer them in the newsletter.

Here are some upcoming Household Hazardous Waste days in 3 counties:

For Genesee County it’s Saturday, June 7th, from 10am-2pm, for more information please visit http://www.kgcb.net/uploads/Household_Waste_2014_201404241341220756.pdf

For Livingston County, it’s Saturday, August 9th from 9am-noon, but you must call for an appointment! For more information, please visit, http://www.livgov.com/dpw/Pages/household_hazardous_collection.aspx

For Washtenaw County, please visit http://www.ewashtenaw.org/government/departments/environmental_health/recycling_home_toxics/hhw/hhw_location.html

Your local professional organizer,

Betty Huotari

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810.348.1772

betty@logicalplacement.com • www.LogicalPlacement.com

