



**November 2014 – I know it's around here somewhere
– reclaim your basement this weekend!**

Take a deep breath; today we are headed to the basement.

Whew, a little scary isn't it?

You are going to have to dedicate a few hours to this project, or maybe even a weekend.

Don't worry; I have some tips to help you through it. You'll have an organized basement before you know it.

Think about getting some shelving. I find that if you have shelving in the basement, it is easier to organize your belongings and get items off the floor, therefore less tripping hazards! You can start with shopping online and find shelves that you like and the price that you can afford. I've had great luck picking mine up at Sam's Club, Target, and Home Depot. Plus these shelving units will travel with you to your next house too. Once they've been assembled (and it might be worth hiring a student to put them together so it doesn't delay your project to next year – ha!ha!) start thinking about your categories and how big those categories are or what you want to get the number of bins down to.

Get some clear containers of varying sizes that will fit on the shelving and will use the vertical space most efficiently.

You will probably find a few family treasures buried under items. Well, now it's time to address them. Keeping them buried under piles of things in your basement doesn't honor the person who gave it to you. If the item means something to you, try to include it in your surroundings somehow. Otherwise, consider giving it to someone else in the family who might use it. Or, you could sell the item or, perhaps, donate it to your favorite charity.

The other categories to help you with framework on getting the items on the shelves:

- Christmas/Hanukkah
- Easter/Passover
- Pictures
- Taxes
- Sleeping Bags
- Books/Entertainment
- Suitcases
- Memories
- Archived Papers
- Sports/Camping
- Entertaining
- Sam's Club/Costco surplus

Good luck with getting your basement organized. Let me know how it goes for you. I'd love to hear stories about you you're enjoying all your space downstairs.

Any speaking events?
Any tips to pass along?

Your local professional organizer,

Betty Huotari

P.S. If you would like to share this email with a friend, please pass it along and if they would like to be added to my list, have them send me an email. If you would like to unsubscribe to the monthly news-letter, please send me an email to betty@logicalplacement.com.

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