

Declutter Your Space (And Hang On To Your Sanity)

The one thing that really rattles my nerves is clutter in the home. Clutter, for me, is viewed as noise. I happen to reside in Singapore where space (rather, lack thereof) is a constant challenge. In addition, I work from home – where peace and tranquility are unheard of concepts in no small part due to two kids (under 5 thank you very much) and the cacophony of the constant Singapore construction. Let's add to this picturesque tableau the actual physical clutter – now that's a whole lot of noise...

Unfortunately, for me, the flow of my creative juices seems inexorably linked to the lack of the afore-mentioned clutter in my immediate surroundings. In addition, when I finally kick back after a long day with my much needed (and well earned, may I add) cup of *chai*, I need my environment to be restful and decluttered. Basically, work or play, the clutter needs to go!

Here are my '5 Quick Tips For Decluttering Your Space'

1. Spring clean! Spring clean! Spring clean! And then spring clean some more. My general rule of thumb: any items that haven't been used in the last 6 months should be recycled or given away (feel free to apply this to people – but 'Declutter Your Emotional Space' is another topic for another day).
2. Please restrain yourself and keep decoration to a minimum. Yes, that chintzy vase you saw at The Link is fabulous and the bold bookends your eye fell on at Vanilla Home and that woven photoframe you picked up in Paris totally screams out boho-chic – you may give yourself a big pat on the back for having amazing taste – but please remember: less is more (and most definitely not a bore).
3. Quality over quantity. When accessorizing your home choose one sizeable object rather than countless small ones. It is far easier on the eye and much easier to clean. *If you are a compulsive shopper (read: I have a problem and cannot HELP myself) and simply can't resist buying lots of different pieces,*

then please, please, please rotate them instead of putting them all out at once (it really is a visual assault).

4. Organize your space. This sounds tedious, and accomplishing it that first time may even be a tad tedious but if you are anything like me you will derive a perverse pleasure whilst doing it (and certainly feel quite chuffed after the task is completed). Every item should have an assigned space be it toys, books, clothes, shoes etc. Once used, it should immediately be put back in its rightful place. *I've found that boxes and trunks are very helpful storage tools with some aesthetic appeal – use these to 'hide' and store the more mundane items. Things such as cutlery trays can double as dividers in your desk drawers so everything has it's own particular spot*
5. Rearrange furniture. Skip your workout for the day and burn off some of that energy pushing and lugging your current pieces into new locations. Play around with them to create a circulation flow and to separate any clashing patterns or textures. An instant facelift for the room (at no cost!)

Happy decluttering people!



Splurge worthy

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Budget

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