

SADIE ROAD

— *organized & styled* —

THE 3 STEP PROCESS TO GET YOUR HOME ORGANIZED & STYLED



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Are you tired of feeling overwhelmed with the state of your home?

I get it and promise you're not alone. You're busy. You have family and friends to take care of and spend time with, a demanding job, and your to-do list only grows each day.

So why should you invest the time and money into creating a home you love? Because my friend, it's investing in your own sanity, your productivity and your own happiness.

Let's get right down to it then, shall we?



Before we dig in, commit to the process of transforming one space and block time in your calendar now to dedicate to the steps. And tell someone you're doing this-- a little accountability never hurts!

1 Design Concept



1. Assess the Area.

Clarify what isn't working with the space and what you ideally envision the space to be. Grab a notebook, go to that area and ask yourself:

*What issues are you having with the space? What are the things you can never find?
What is working in the space? What do you like having easy access to?
What are the essential items that need to stay?
What would make you happy to have done with the space?*

2. Find Inspiration.

Create a secret Pinterest board with a variety of images with the look, feel and functionality desired for the room. If you're not a fan of Pinterest, try copying and pasting images to a word doc or cut clippings from magazines.

3. Create your Design Concept.

Explore and edit the inspiration you gathered. Is there a pattern with the theme or style? Create an Inspiration Board with the images you love most that will be your guide (and motivation!) for the room.

TIP: Try choosing a focal point (artwork, a rug) to use as the primary inspiration and then build from there.

2 Organize

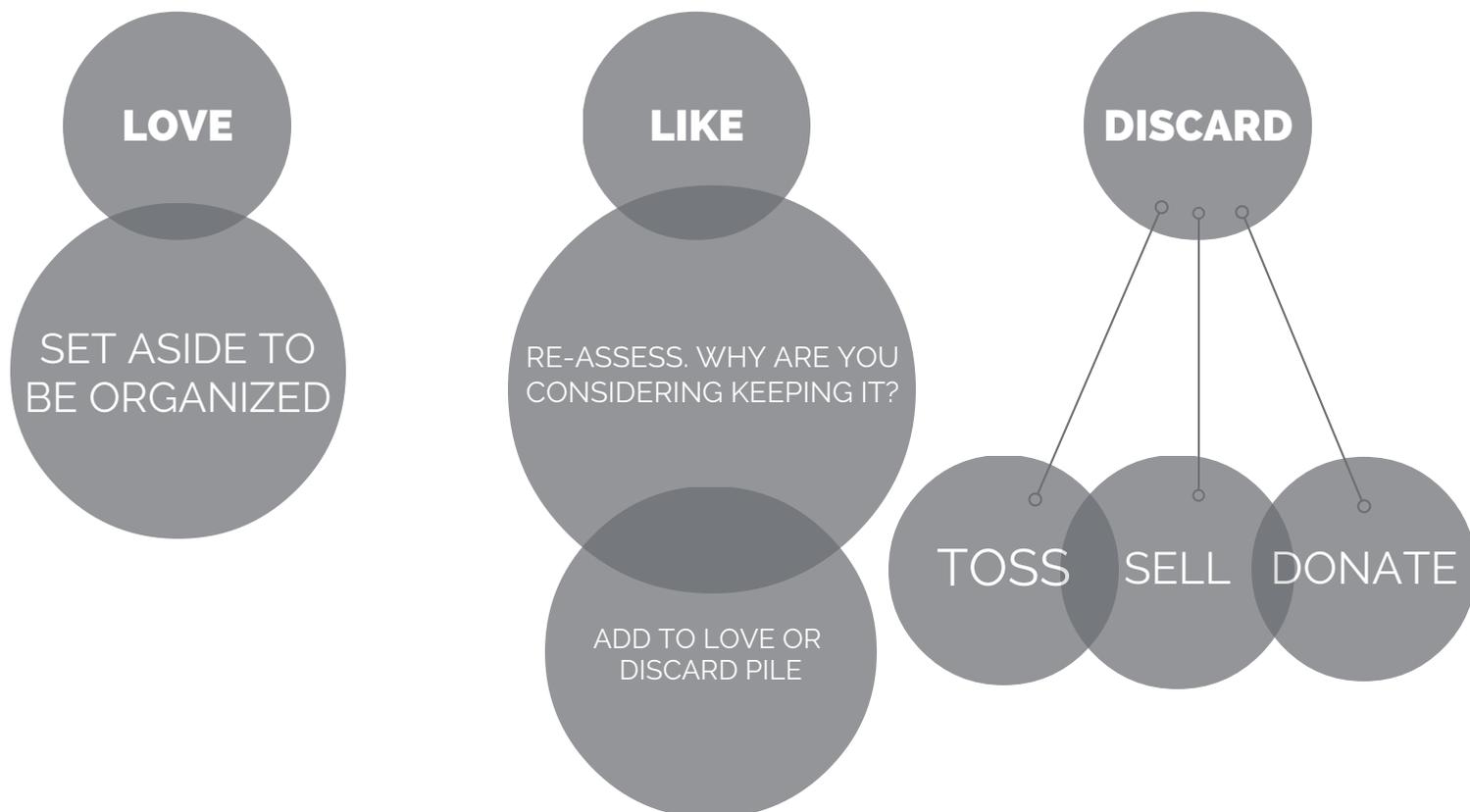
When you start the organizing process, remember the word “SPACE”-- it stands for Sort, Purge, Assign, Containerize and Equalize.

1. SORT. By category. A key part in this process is to clearly see ALL of what you own in each category. So be sure to round up all the items from other places that belong in that category.

2. PURGE. Make 3 Piles: "Love", "Like" and "Discard". Start with one category (i.e. T-Shirts) and ask yourself “Do I love it? Is it useful?” If it's not at least one of these things, it's time to let it go. When you have your final discard pile, sort again into "Toss", "Sell" and "Donate" piles. Clear these from the space immediately to open the space up before starting to organize.

Tip: Create (1) “Memento Box” for sentimental items, narrow it down to those things that you really love and cannot part ways with.

ASSESS + SORT



3. **ASSIGN** a home. Everything needs a home. You want to be able to see the items at quick glance and access them easily. This is a super important step and the key to maintaining organization long-term.

Tip: When deciding where to store your things, keep the like items grouped together and store the items you use frequently at eye-level and very accessible.

4. **CONTAINERIZE**. Finding stylish, functional storage for your items is fun, and often will make the visual impact you need to freshen up the space. But, don't be tempted to go out and buy your baskets, dividers and trays until you have seriously purged. Be sure to measure the area that needs storage and have the measurements on hand when shopping.

Tip: To keep drawers neat, use dividers and don't stack items- instead roll so that you can see everything in drawer. And if you're purchasing a new drawer system, be sure you keep enough clearance for the drawer to open.

5. **EQUALIZE**. Now the really hard question—how in the world will you maintain your newly organized space? If you've designated a home for each item, it's simply a matter of being diligent and putting your things back where they belong on a regular basis. As best as you can, try to:



- At the end of each day, take 5-10 minutes and do a clean sweep to put things away. (i.e. clear the counters kitchen counters and tables, bring toys back to playroom, hang coats, purses, etc.)

- At the end of each week, take 20-30 minutes and get organized (i.e. go through mail, pay bills, put clothes away according to your organized system, plan meals for the week, etc.)

Tip: If you're a parent and find your house routinely being taken over by toys, keep a basket in the common area (one for each child) where they can drop their toys when they're done (or you can use to quickly gather toys at the end of each day) and take back to the playroom.

3 Style



Now for the really fun part! Grab the design concept that you put together and use this as a guide as you start the styling process. Below are my go-to items to consider when refreshing the decor:

PAINT. Changing the paint color (on the walls or with an old piece of furniture) will instantly update the look and feel of your space. Stick with light neutrals to keep it classic, clean and to make the area feel larger.

RUGS. Is your rug old, boring, or dirty? Is it too big or too small for your space? If so, changing the rug could go a long way. The rug is the anchor for the surrounding furniture--make sure it's not so small that it floats in the middle of the floor. For a living room, a good rule of thumb is to have at least the front feet of your couch or armchairs on the rug.

ARTWORK. Artwork does not need to be an expensive undertaking. My favorite places to look online for prints are minted and etsy. And for frames, Michael's and Framebridge. Or try enlarging some of your favorite photos from traveling or framing vintage wallpaper.

ACCENT CHAIRS. You may have a corner in your bedroom or home office that is just calling for a sweet little chair, or maybe your living room has space for a chair or two that will add style and seating. Check out Joss and Main, Wayfair, Target or your local Homegoods.

CURTAINS. These help to make a space feel cozier AND bigger at the same time! To make your ceilings seem higher, hang curtains high above the window (the higher the better) and have them JUST graze the floor. Please, no floating curtains several inches above the floor. West Elm has great options that are nice quality and (can be) very reasonable priced.

THROW PILLOWS. You can never have enough pillows on a bed or couch! Adding some variety of color, pattern and textures is one of the quickest and most affordable ways to make a change. Check out etsy and West Elm.

TRAYS. These will keep everything more organized while adding pretty detail. I love using trays on coffee or console tables, a dresser or bathroom countertops. World Market and Target have great options.

PLANTS & FLOWERS. This is one of my favorite ways to add a little touch of color (really a must-have if you ask me). Whether faux, fresh or dried, a plant is the perfect accessory in any room! Go bold with a large floor plant in the corner or add a little vase with greens on a shelf or mantel.



BOOKS. Another accessory that's super easy and affordable. Look no further than your own bookshelf or local Salvation Army to pick out a couple books that have an interesting cover or spine. Be sure to take the paper cover off and take a look at the actual book--you may be surprised how cool it looks!

BASKETS. These are THE simplest way to add storage and style without breaking the bank! Plop one next to the couch or bed to stash your throw pillows or extra blankets. Add them to your pantry or laundry room shelves or incorporate a few on your bookshelves. You get the idea. :) Homegoods, World Market and Pier One are my first stops for baskets.

THROW BLANKETS. How about a new cozy or fun-colored throw on the back of your new accent chair or the bottom of your bed? Try a faux fur or plaid for the colder months and a lighter cotton with pop of color for the warmer months!



QUESTIONS?

Contact me if you'd like to talk through
the space you're updating and
I'd love to help.

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