A decorative floral wreath border surrounds the central text. The wreath features pink leaves and blue and yellow flowers. The text is centered within the wreath.

Garage
ORGANIZING
Guide

by
Melinda Grace Organizing

Hey There!

WELCOME TO YOUR GARAGE ORGANIZING GUIDE!

Feel overwhelmed by the amount of stuff you have in the garage? Are you wondering where to start?

Overwhelmed? Stuck? Don't know where to start?

You're in the right place! If you walk through my 5-step G.R.A.C.E method you'll begin to chip away at that pile of in your garage and make significant progress, and hopefully a complete makeover.

Ready to Reclaim Your Garage with G.R.A.C.E.?



Table *of* Contents



Garage Organizing Guide

<u>04</u>	THE G.R.A.C.E. METHOD
<u>05</u>	HOW TO DECLUTTER
<u>08</u>	HOW TO RELEASE
<u>13</u>	GARAGE RELEASE CHECKLIST
<u>15</u>	HOW TO ORGANIZE
<u>21</u>	HOW TO MAINTAIN
<u>23</u>	GARAGE RESTORE CHECKLIST

I believe that
distraction and isolation
caused by a cluttered
home can create a
cavern in our souls,
keeping us from hearing
God's voice...

Melinda Grace

Reclaim Your Space with
G.R.A.C.E.

G.R.A.C.E

5-Step Method

gather

At your first organizing session, GATHER ALL the items in the space being organized & sort them into categories.

release

Next, review each item one by one & make decisions. Decide what to keep and what to RELEASE aka donate, sell, & throw away.

acquire

ACQUIRE any containers, bins, boxes, shelving, custom labels & other tools needed to contain the "KEEP" items.

cultivate

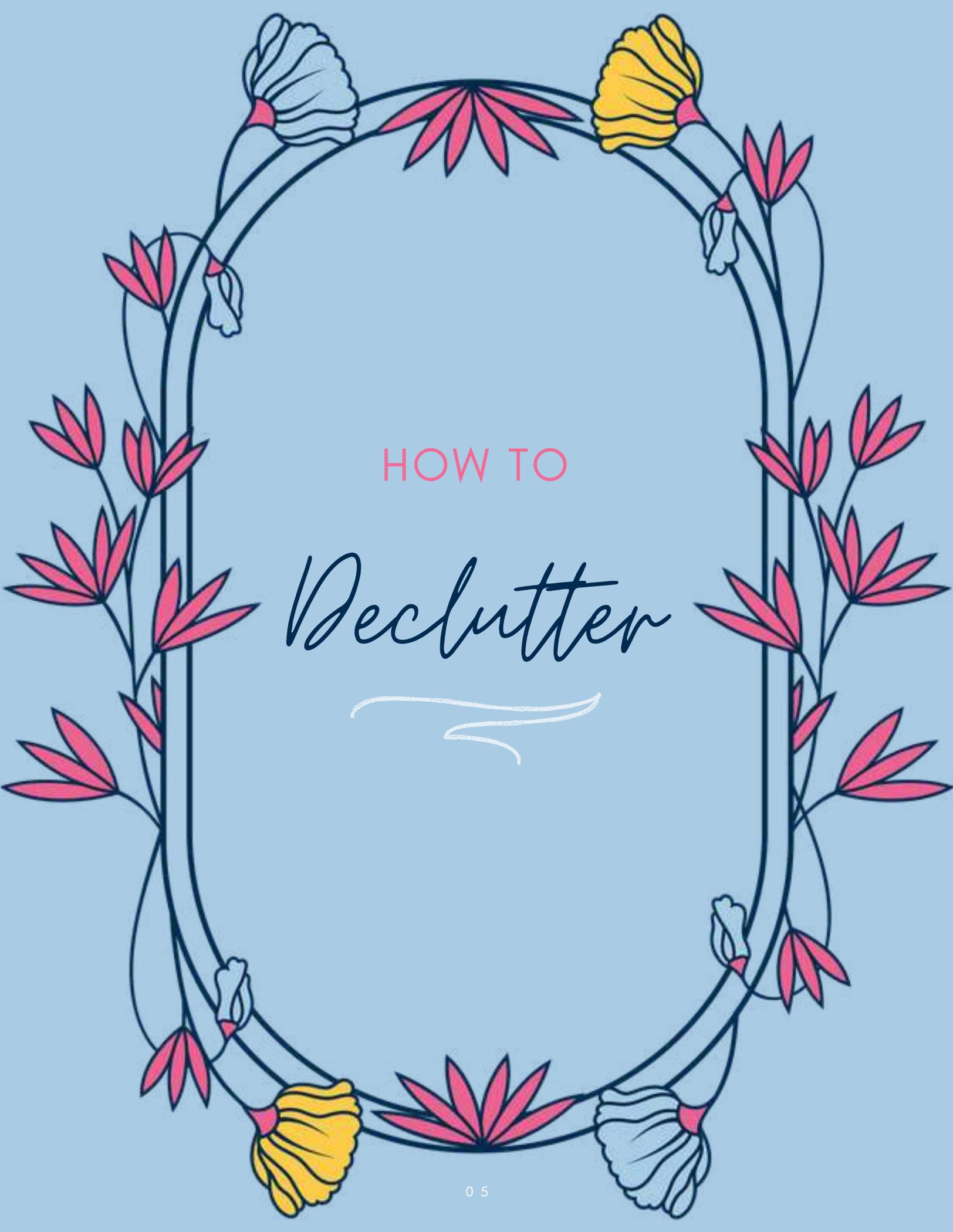
In this phase, carefully give each item a home using the acquired bins & labels. Put everything away in an organized system that meets your needs, style, & goals.

enjoy

Take a moment to celebrate & ENJOY your calm, organized space.

curate

BONUS: As you organize your space and put things away, take time to add style & design. This will make restoring your space a beautiful experience.



HOW TO

Declutter



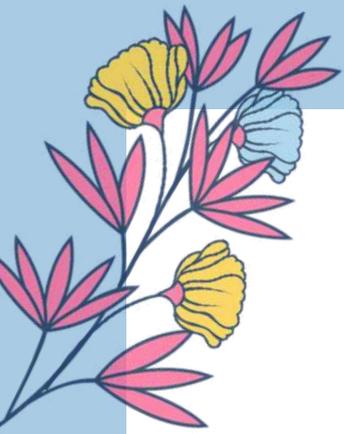
Gather

**THE FIRST
STEP IN THE G.R.A.C.E. METHOD IS
GATHER.**

“In this first step, we are GATHERING
and planting seeds for our success. We
are going to
GATHER three things: 1) Goals, 2)
Organizations, and 3) Items.”

Melinda Grace

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GETTING *Started*

01

GATHER YOUR GOALS

What are your goals for your garage? What is the function of your garage? Park cars? Gym? Hang out? Storage? What do you want to achieve? How soon do you want your garage organization project completed?

02

GATHER YOUR MATERIALS

Gather and/or purchase the materials you would like to use for your decluttering process, i.e., Post-it notes, Sharpies, trash bags, boxes, scissors, tape, all-purpose cleaner, & paper towels. Use my [Amazon Organizing Shopping List](#) to make this step super easy! Also, grab a pair of gloves - things will be dusty and dirty!

03

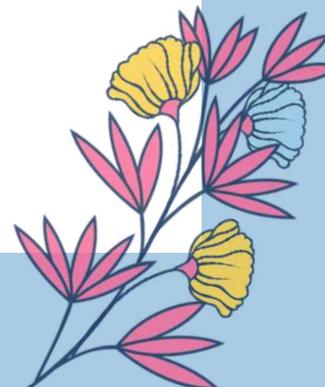
GATHER YOUR CHARITIES

Now's the time to plan ahead and decide where you're donating, selling, or consigning to. Having a list gathered up front, makes it easier to release your items later.

04

GATHER YOUR ITEMS

Now's the time to gather all the items in the space you are decluttering. Group them into categories, aka "like with like." Ex: Kitchen Gadgets, Old Kid's Toys, Memorabilia, Sports / Workout Equipment.





HOW TO

Release

Release

STEP THREE: RELEASE YOUR PHYSICAL ITEMS

“Here is where you will physically go through each item one by one and make decisions—keep, toss, donate, sell, recycle.”

Melinda Grace

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Release

USE BOXES OR BAGS

keep

Place items you, or your family, use regularly, you love, or are essential to modern life in this box or bag.

give

Place items that are in good condition that you are willing to donate to a worthy cause, such as Salvation Army or your favorite charity in this box.

sell

Place anything in excellent condition and has a good resale value in this box. If you are unlikely to get around to listing the item for sale or consigning, donate it instead.

move

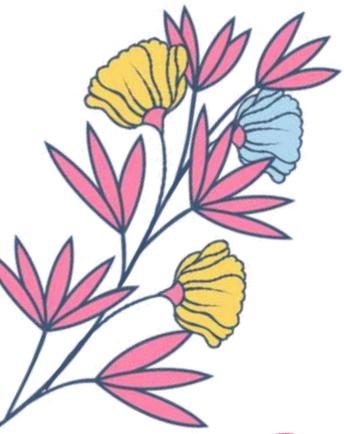
This box is for items that belong in another room or area of the house. Move the items to their correct homes once you've gone through everything to save yourself some trips.

trash

Place any old, broken, outdated, or duplicate items in this box. Caution: do not hold on to items thinking you will fix them at a later date, unless you really will fix them.

idk

This is the I DON'T KNOW bin. If you come across an item that you don't know what decision to make yet, simply put it in the IDK bin and then decide when you're ready.



Sentimental ITEMS

01

No Guilt

If you unearth an item that is sentimental and brings up guilt or negative feelings, let it go. Life is too short!

02

Ask For Help

If you find it hard to let go of anything in the garage because of sentimental reasons, but you want to let them go, call a friend! Have them come over and help you say goodbye. Or reach out to me. I'd love to help you!!!

03

Give Thanks

I find it helpful if I get stuck on a sentimental item to pray! Thank God for this blessing. Ask God to help you let it go to the next person who needs it.

04

Take a Pic

Snap a quick pic on your phone of the item and save on your computer. Another really cool option is an app called Artifacts. It lets you snap a pic and write your story of why the item is so meaningful to you.

05

Archive It

If you know you want to keep several sentimental items, consider acquiring archival grade storage boxes that are acid-free and / or weathertight bins + store them anywhere else but here in the garage! Many people have room on the top shelf in their closets for one or two beautiful boxes of memorabilia.





CHECKLIST TO

Release



The GARAGE

RELEASE

- Old or Never Used Tools
- Old or Never Used Car Parts
- Old or Never Used Gardening Supplies
- Old Clothes
- Camping Gear You'll Never Use
- Vintage China, silver, misc. items
- Yoga or Exercise Equipment Not Used
- Items that Are Broken
- Items that Don't Suit Your Lifestyle
- Old Household Repair Items: tile, carpet, wood floor, decor samples
- Old or Never Used Holiday Decor
- Memorabilia that Isn't Your Fave
- Outdated Decor
- Old Toys and Kids' Clothes
- Bags & Cardboard Boxes
- Old Papers, Documents & School work
- Old Bicycles
- Old Furniture
- Trash
- Miscellaneous items

PROPERLY DISPOSE OF

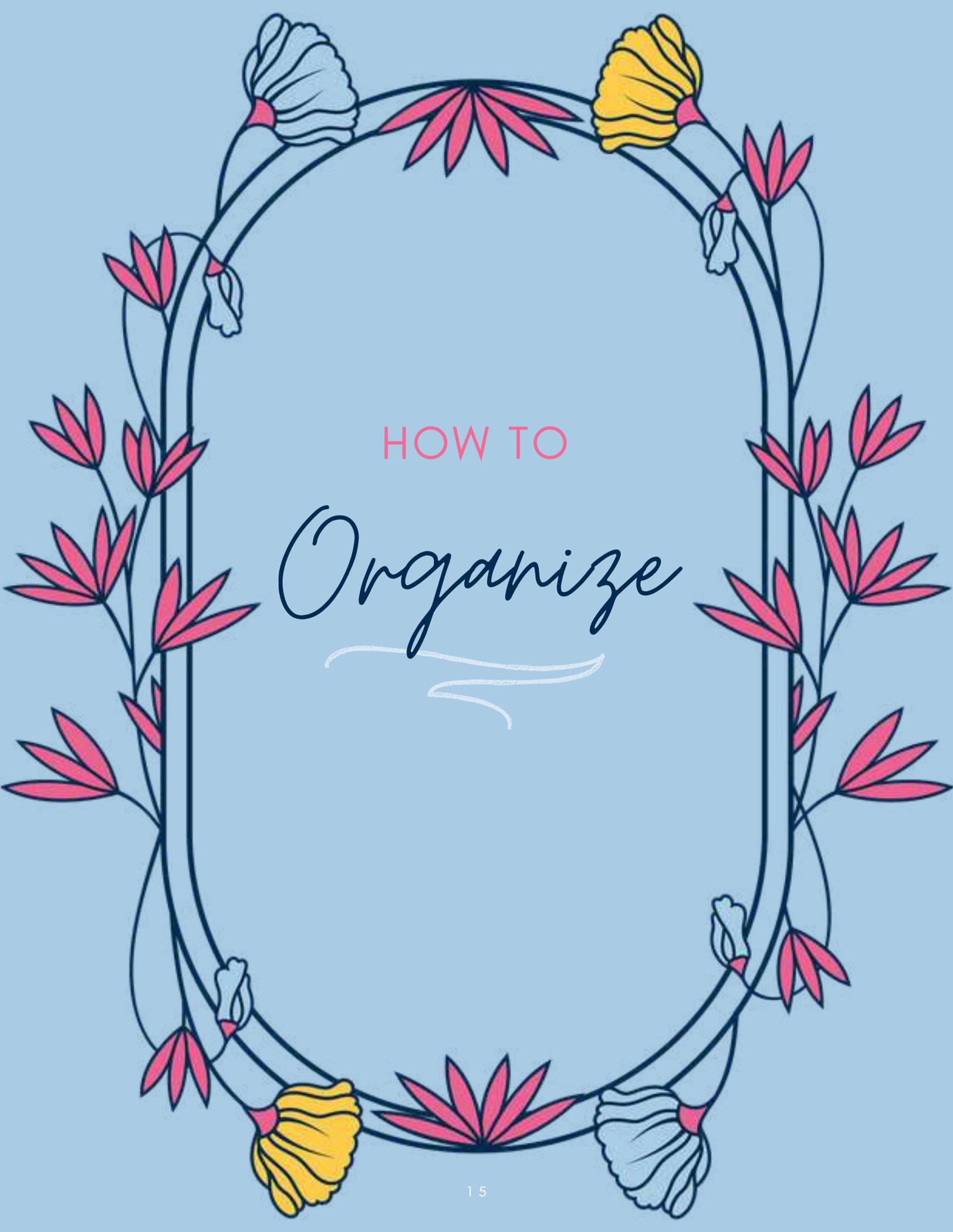
- Old chemicals / cleaning supplies
- Old car maintenance cleaners
- Old paint and paint thinners
- Old Bug Sprays & Traps
- Old or wrong size light bulbs
- Old electronics and wires / cables
- Broken glass

NOTES:

“The goal is to be able to find what you need, when you need it, and to be able to put it away quickly. In the organizing world, we call this a system.”

Melinda Grace

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HOW TO

Organize

Acquire

ADD YOUR UNIQUE STYLE & PERSONALITY!

Consider purchasing storage solutions such as weathertight bins, metal shelving, or cabinets. If you want to maximize efficiency, I recommend hiring a company to design you a custom garage system.

My favorite items to acquire for a garage:

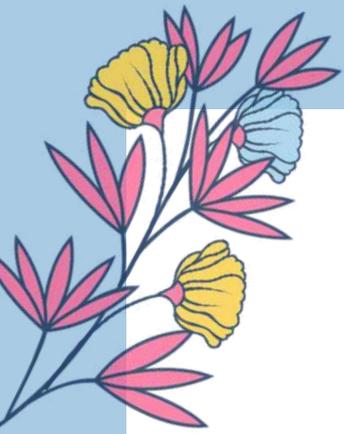
Clear Weathertight Bins

Black & Yellow Heavy Duty Bins

Sturdy, Wire Shelving

Wall-Mounted Hooks

A Handyperson to build & install!



Product RECS

01

CLEAR STORAGE CONTAINERS

Huge fan of **these clear weathertight bins from The Containers Store**. They come in several shapes and sizes and are all stackable.

02

DARK STORAGE CONTAINERS

My clients often love these **HDX heavy duty black and yellow storage bins** from The Home Depot. They also come in different sizes and are stackable.

03

WIRE SHELVING

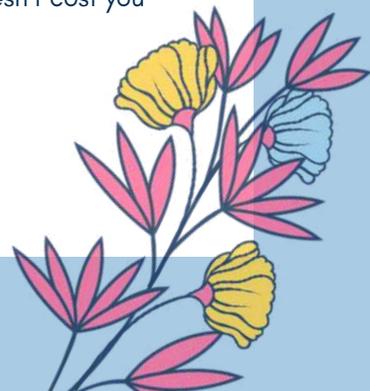
Heavy Duty wire shelving is not hard to find in white, silver, or black. Try The Home Depot, **Amazon**, or used at estate sales and FB Marketplace.

04

HOOKS

Hooks of any kind are a great way to store bicycles, vacuums, gardening tools, and tools. I'm a big fan of this **single slat wall panel** because the hooks are adjustable and moveable depending on how your lifestyle changes.

*Some of the links above are affiliate links, which means I might earn a teeny tiny commission if you fall in love with something from this list. It doesn't cost you anything extra and supports my small business.



Cultivate

Set up your garage with rhythms that work with your lifestyle & save time + maximize ease.

Think about your current rhythms & routine in your garage. What are they? For example, do you have a routine of pulling out holiday decor once a year? Do you like it? Do you want to change it?

Define them. Keep what you like.
Discard the ones you don't.

TOP 10 GARAGE *Organization Tips*

- Before putting everything away, give your garage a deep clean.
- Park the car(s) you want to keep in the garage and then mark the area left for storage.
- Create zones & store like with like, i.e. holiday decor, tools, gardening, exercise, kids' toys, paint, outdoor fun, etc.
- Acquire ALL MATCHING, heavy duty, weathertight Bins
- Use vertical wall space: hooks, slat wall, peg board, magnetic strips, tall shelving, or cabinets + Hydraulic Lift Storage on the ceiling.
- Store must keep toxic chemicals up high, out of reach of little kiddos
- Store kids' toys lower within their reach, if you want them to play in the garage.
- Use rollout bins for tools, sports equipment, and random garage accessories.
- Install a beautiful, durable garage floor + extra lighting, if needed.
- Label

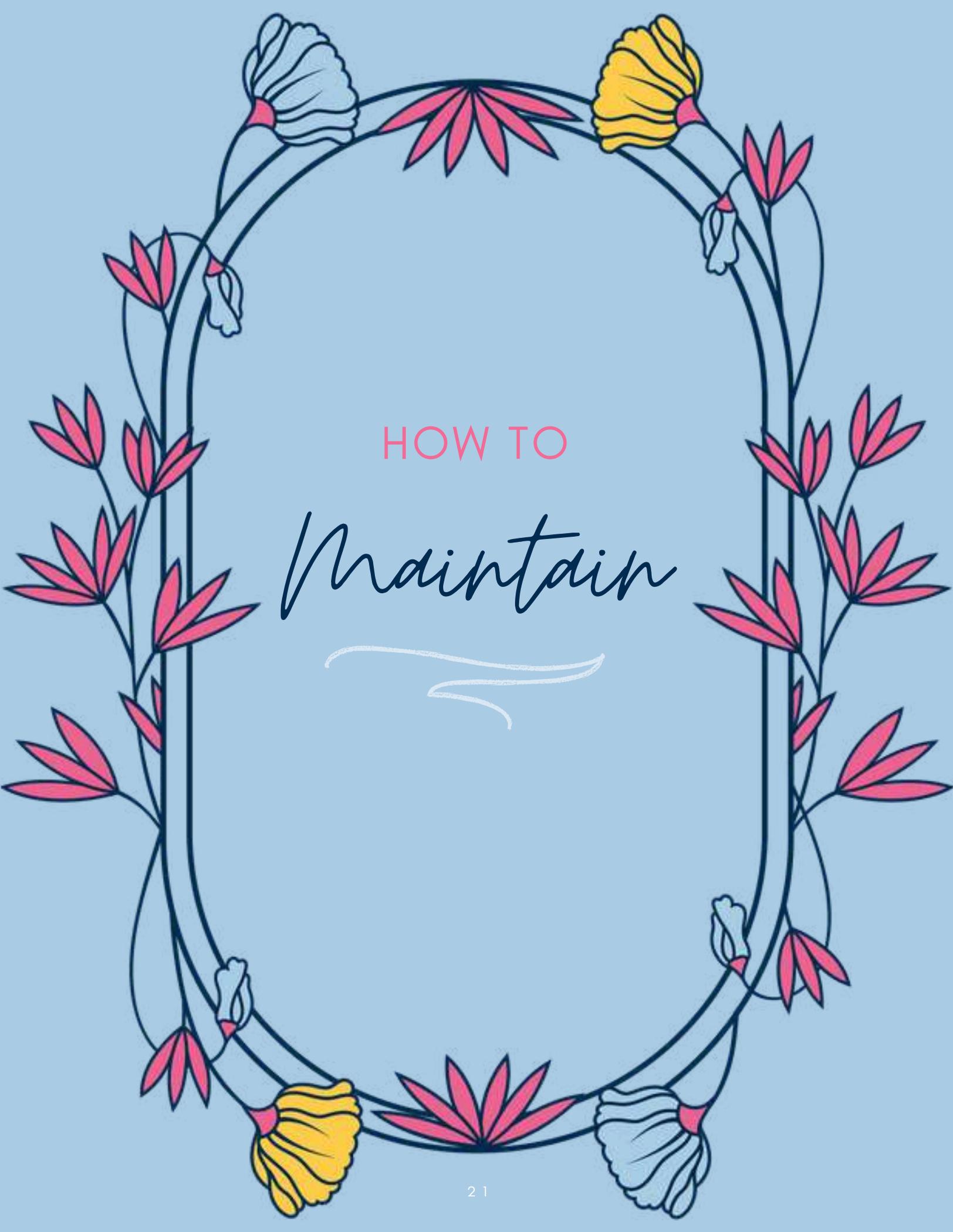
Enjoy!

Take a moment to celebrate &
ENJOY your calm, organized
photos!

“Whatever makes
you smile and feel celebratory
—DO THAT! Enjoy
accomplishing your
organizational goals!”

Melinda Grace

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HOW TO

Maintain

Restore

“Don’t think of it (maintaining organization) as something you have to do... Rather, think of it as a restorative dance of self-care.”

Melinda Grace

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GARAGE *Restore*

Daily

- Throw trash & recycling away
- Park your car with ease!

Weekly

- Take out the trash & recycling
- Put toys away, if used
- Put exercise or outdoor gear away
- Return tools to their homes

Every 6 months

- Sweep & clean the garage
- Drop-off donations
- Dispose of e-waste and / or hazardous waste

Yearly

- Revisit your zones and bins of items
- Release anything not used this past year
- Release anything you are now finally ready to release (memorabilia, china, small kitchen appliances, etc.)

**WANT YOUR GARAGE
ORGANIZED WITH
ELEGANCE & EASE
WITHOUT THE STRESS
OF DOING IT
YOURSELF?**

[Schedule a Free Phone Call](#)



Don't forget to follow me on **Instagram** for more garage inspiration & how to's.

Thank You



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