



7

TIPS FOR KEEPING YOUR HOUSE ORGANIZED WHEN YOU HAVE A MESSY FAMILY

Congratulations on downloading this guide!

I've used this organizing method and strategies to help many of my clients create homes that are peaceful and feel like sanctuaries where they can connect with their families and loved ones on a daily basis.

Before you do anything else, you'll want to take a quick minue and join my free **Decluttering and Organizing Group on Facebook for Busy Moms.**



I release new trainings every week in this group that I don't share anywhere else. Plus, inspiration and support to get your home decluttered and organized.

So, if you want the latest trends and tips for what's working right now to declutter and organize your home and experience more peace, **click RIGHT HERE to join.**

When I see your request to join, I'll be sure to approve you quickly. 😊

Hi! I'm Melinda

For those who don't know me, I'm Melinda Grace, professional organizer, author of *Reclaim Your Space with G.R.A.C.E.*, wife, mom, and the founder of Melinda Grace Organizing.

My life was transformed by a simple, organized home. So, I set out to build a company that transforms homes into sacred, inspiring spaces with elegant, functional solutions tailored to each clients' needs without judgment.

Over the past several years, I've had the privilege of helping busy moms create homes that look, feel, and function the way **THEY** want them to.

Through organizing, I've seen firsthand that lasting organization is about creating beautiful systems that support your real life and that it's a tool that can be used help to restore your inspiration, renew your mindset, and reclaim your space.

Ready to reclaim your space with **G.R.A.C.E.**?

With Grace,
Melinda Grace



It's been 5 months since she organized our rooms, and the systems she put in place have been easy to maintain and have grown with us as our needs have changed.

KATY, NEWBURY PARK, CA



Welcome to Grace!

The G.R.A.C.E. Process

If you've ever organized a room only to find shoes in the hallway, dishes in the sink, backpacks on the floor, and random piles appearing again two days later, you're not alone.

One of the most common questions I get on podcast interviews is:

"Melinda, I can organize my house. My problem is getting my spouse and kids to keep it that way! What do I do?"

The truth is, organizing isn't just about bins, labels, and pretty containers. (Although that's super fun!) It's about people.

Every member of your family has different habits, priorities, personalities, and comfort levels with clutter. That's why creating a peaceful home requires more than organizing—it requires grace.

In my **G.R.A.C.E. Method**, we focus on creating beautiful systems that support real life.

Let's walk through seven ways to get your family involved without nagging, arguing, or feeling like you're carrying the entire load yourself.



G - Gather
R - Release
A - Acquire
C - Cultivate
E - Enjoy!

GATHER EVERYONE AROUND THE SAME VISION

G = Gather

Before you start throwing everything out, gather your family around a conversation.

Many times we assume our spouse or children understand why organization matters to us. Often times they don't.

Approach it from a place of love and explain what you're trying to achieve.



Instead of saying:

✗ "This house is a disaster."

Try:

- ✓ "I'd love for our mornings to feel less rushed."
- ✓ "I'd love to spend less time cleaning and more time with you."
- ✓ "I'd love for us to be able to find things when we need them."

The goal is creating a home that supports your family.

When everyone understands the "why," they're much more likely to participate in the "how."

RELEASE THE NEED TO ORGANIZE EVERYONE ELSE

R = Release

This one can be hard. You can organize your stuff. You **CANNOT** get rid of everyone else's stuff.

Resist the temptation to secretly declutter your spouse's belongings or throw away your child's treasures (depending on their age) when they aren't looking.

It may create less clutter temporarily, but it also creates distrust.

Instead:

- Focus on your own spaces first.
- Model the habits you want to see.
- Show your family the benefits of being organized.

When your family sees you feeling calmer, finding things faster, and spending less time cleaning, they'll begin noticing the difference for themselves.

Change is far more powerful when it's invited rather than forced.



CREATE HOMES THAT ARE EASY TO MAINTAIN

A = Acquire

One of my favorite organizing phrases is:

"Every item needs a home."

But here's the catch:

The home has to make sense to the people using it.

If your family consistently leaves shoes by the front door, stop fighting the habit and create a shoe zone there.

If dishes pile up next to the sink, make sure the dishwasher and all the dish-washing supplies are easy to access and empty regularly.

If skincare products cover the bathroom counter, create labeled zones using acquired drawers, bins, or a lazy Susan.

The easier the system is to use, the more likely your family is to use it.

Organization should work with your family's natural habits—not against them.



CULTIVATE ROUTINES, NOT RULES

C = Cultivate

Most families don't need more rules. They need rhythms. Think about simple routines that can become part of everyday life:

- Five-minute bedroom reset before bed.
- Put laundry away after it's folded.
- Shoes back in their home before dinner.
- Quick family tidy-up before movie night.



For kids especially, consistency beats intensity.

Use:

- Picture checklists
- Labels
- Visual guides
- Simple routines repeated often

Remember: Organization is a skill. Skills are learned through practice.



CULTIVATE GRACE-FILLED BOUNDARIES

Not every space has to look exactly the way you want it to. Sometimes peace comes from compromise. Consider cultivating:

- Shared family spaces that stay tidy.
- Personal spaces where family members have more freedom.
- Drop zones for everyday items.
- Donation bins for easy decluttering.



You can honor your need for order and peace while respecting that your spouse and children are different from you.

It's about creating a home that works for everyone.

And from personal experience, if you move things around to create a better system, tell them! 🗣️

CELEBRATE PROGRESS MORE THAN YOU CORRECT MISTAKES



E= Enjoy

One of the fastest ways to get people to repeat a behavior is to acknowledge it.

When your spouse hangs up their coat...

Notice it.

When your child puts away their toys...

Celebrate it. **ENJOY** IT!!!

When someone remembers where something belongs...
Thank them.

We often focus on what isn't getting done. Try focusing on what is.
Encouragement creates cooperation much faster than criticism.

GIVE GRACE



If there's one thing I hope you remember, it's this:

Choose connection over frustration.

Organization works best when it becomes something your family does together—not something you're constantly nagging everyone about.

Give yourself grace.

Give your family grace and lots of love.

And remember that creating a peaceful home is less about perfection and more about cultivating habits that support the life of love and family you're building together.

Your Next Step:

Pick ONE area that frustrates you most right now—a pile of shoes, a cluttered counter, a messy bedroom—and have a conversation with your family about how to make it work better for everyone. Start where you're stuck. Small changes create lasting results.

KEEPING YOUR HOUSE TIDY

Having kind conversations with your family about implementing easy organizing routines and starting with your stuff are great first steps towards an organized home your family can help you keep organized.



Going forward there's a lot of decisions to be made, items to declutter, and rhythms and routines to cultivate, which can be hard to actually finish by yourself and questions may come up such as...

"What if we have more toys than will fit in our playroom?"

"What do I do with everything we decluttered?"

"What specific organizing bins will work for me?"

"What are some specific organizing routines I can create with my family?"

Here is the best way you can get extra support, community and accountability to experience calm and peace faster...

JOIN MY FACEBOOK GROUP
FOR BUSY MOMS!

Here, I regularly post trainings on how and what to declutter, how to cultivate organizing systems that work with your family and beautiful, functional organizing tools and bins.