

THE MINDSET of ORGANIZATION

Take Back Your House One Phase at a Time



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Lisa Woodruff

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Have you bought and read more books on home organization than you can count?

Let me guess:

- Go paperless.
- Get rid of everything that doesn't spark joy.
- Color coordinate your wardrobe.

Um, yeah. I print emails, keep kids' school papers, and my wardrobe is anything that fits and isn't too revealing.

And yet, I'm organized.

There really is no denying that as you move through the various stages of your life, your organizational needs and the demands on your time will change.

What phase of life are you in?

I am 44 and in the survival phase of life (40–55). I'd be more organized if I didn't live in my car and spend every other minute working or taking care of the house.

Maybe you are in the accumulation phase of life (21–40). Every time you get an organizational system working, you add something new. A new spouse, a new baby, a new job, a new house . . . You'd be more organized if things would stop changing every three months.

What about the baby boomers (55+)? The kids are gone, but now you're left with a house full of memories—and lots of stuff. What do you want? What do the kids want? And what about what's left over? Most organizational books on the market profess to have a one-size-fits-all solution to home organization. This one does not.

I'm a former teacher, professional organizer, and productivity coach, and I know that **organization is more than just 15-minute daily tasks or cute ways to use fun containers.**

As a generation translator and problem solver, I have been able to help hundreds of women in Cincinnati, Ohio—and thousands of women around the world—get their homes organized and keep them that way.

Understanding which phase of life you are in will enable you to:

- Identify the unique organizational challenges you'll face.
- Implement lasting organizational solutions.
- Acquire and develop the skills you need to get organized.
- Deal with the emotional clutter in your storage rooms.

This is the home organization book that will make the rest of the books in your collection make sense.

The Mindset of Organization: Take Back Your House One Phase at a Time Details

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Author : Lisa Woodruff

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From Reader Review The Mindset of Organization: Take Back Your House One Phase at a Time for online ebook

Jessica Powell says

I've read lots and lots of organization books lately, and this one has been the best by far! The author's tone is warm and non-judgemental, and the tips are both specific and realistic, which leaves you feeling motivated to start implementing them. If you're looking for some organisational and decluttering tips, this is the book to get.

Robyn says

I have always loved Lisa's advice on how to organize and this is just the best. It's no nonsense and right to the point, from the beginning she shows you how to look at organizing to be super efficient. I am so thankful for Lisa and this book!!! A+

Jackie says

This book had some interesting ideas on the decision making process.

SunflowerGrrl says

A different take on getting organized...

A really useful and inspiring look at organizing through all of life's stages. I love the author's honesty and willingness to share her struggles. Having just ended the "sandwich generation" phase of life as both my parents have passed on, I could really empathize with her. Tons of useful tips and lots of really useful ways to think about clutter and organization. Recommend!

Kitty Jay says

More aimed at moms

Virtually all of this was for Christian moms. I'm used to skipping a chapter or two about organizing kids' rooms or ignoring the constant references to being a busy mom, but pretty much this entire book is about that. When it's not, she also goes on long, rambling digressions about her life until I started to wonder if I was reading a book on organizing or a biography. The only actionable advice she really gave was to pay for her program to clean your house. There was really only one system mentioned, and while it was a good one, one is a bit sparse for a book this length. I didn't hate it, but there are much better options out there.

Priscila Moraes dos Santos says

It's the best book I've read on home organization. Lisa brought up some great tips and explained in details how to implement them. Also, she explains why we accumulate stuff the way we do. The only thing I don't like because I've tried and totally doesn't work for me it's the Sunday Basket, that's why it's not a 5 stars book but 4. Besides that, I already enjoyed Lisa's podcast Organize 365 but after this book I became a fan.

Caran-marie says

A Few Good Ideas and Lots of Ramblings

I liked the idea of the adult phases of life. They make sense to me. But then I am Montessori trained and phases of life have always made sense to me. I also really liked the Sunday Basket and will be putting that into use. However I was looking for more practical advice and this felt more like a book to wet your whistle and sell you her 100 day program.

Carolyn says

Ehh...

There were some great tips, but there was a LOT of personal info and stories that didn't necessarily have an overall "lesson". Also - she hired a nanny, a house cleaner and a personal assistant?! And pays for someone to do her laundry? There's a bit of a disconnect between what she is financially capable of and what most people not making that kind of money can afford.

Lacy Thomas says

Enjoyed being able to relate to author

Loved how Lisa shared her personal experience. It made the book relatable. Lots of helpful information. I also love that I'm not alone in the my house doesn't have a clear countertop! The book was great!

Debra says

This book was just ok. I liked how the author talked about the four different stages of life we go through and how those affect the way we organize. She gave some good tips, too. However, the book read more like her memoir. She talked about herself way too much. I understand telling a personal story to set up what you want to teach your audience, but I don't need to hear all the gory details about your life (I wonder if she is getting any kickbacks from Cymbalta). Plus, many of the stories didn't seem to have anything to do with her

message. Another thing, some of her best advice was to hire people to do the things for you that you don't have time to do, like a personal assistant, a housecleaner, even someone to come do your laundry. Ummm...I don't have that kind of money, and I'm sure there are a lot of people out there that don't. I felt like the advice on organizing was very general, and then.....you get to the end of the book that you bought only to realize it's an introduction to buy her online organization product to really learn how to organize your house. Big turnoff!!!

KMH says

Lisa doesn't sugarcoat it, it's hard work but worth it.

Great book! Lisa goes through not only how to get organized, but why and how you got disorganized. Loved it!

Nicole says

A personal and practical take on organizing at whatever stage of life we are in.

I have read dozens of organizing books; Julie Morgenstern, David Allen's "Getting Things Done" and the tidying up book, and Lisa Woodruff's "Mindset of Organization" fits right in with the big ones.

This book took on organizing at a personal level. It was a pleasure to read and is a well balanced mix with personal stories and practical ideas.

Over time we go through stuff and our organizing needs change.

Her recognition of the phases of life and how they relate to how we organize our stuff and our lives is spot on. Most organizing books don't even address this issue, but Lisa Woodruff's "Mindset of Organization" accepts it and accommodates it with solid ideas for the stage of life where we are accumulating stuff and the completely different stage where we are getting rid of stuff. She also takes into account how the needs of our people affect our actual lives.

Mary says

I've been listening to Lisa's podcasts for awhile now. I would say that at least 85% of this book was stuff she's talked about in her podcasts. Honestly I probably would have liked this book more if I had listened to the audiobook. I love listening to Lisa talk, she just makes you feel like you can get organized, she's so encouraging. While I was able to get that from the book it just wasn't the same. I gave it 3 stars because it wasn't new information if you're a podcast listener, but it was interesting and a great place to start if you need a boost of motivation. Also, the section for kids was great! I wish I would have read it when I was a teen.

Hannah Jinks says

I waffled between a 2 and 3 star rating for this one. I decided to round up, but I wouldn't necessarily recommend it unless you are looking for a very light, not super specific book on organizing.

Positives: Her focus on different stages of life is really great. Identifying that I am in the accumulation stage (married, bought a house, baby...) helps me to remember that while I can still strive to keep things simple and organized, there are going to be a lot of new things coming in to help keep the house running and kiddos taken care of, and that's okay!

Negatives: This book read more like a memoir than a manual. So if you're looking for a plan to organize your house, you won't find it here. There are some good steps ideas, but not anything comprehensive. I didn't feel that the personal stories helped a whole lot, unless you totally identify with being a type A love to organize kind of person. I wonder if she may have more detailed plans on her website, she does briefly mention them in the back of the book.

Also, while she does recommend getting rid of a lot of stuff, I think it would have been helpful to highlight the importance of simplifying in general so that you don't continue to bring in a million unnecessary things.

Emilie says

It didn't bring me much, and I felt there was way too much talk about her life for that kind of book.
