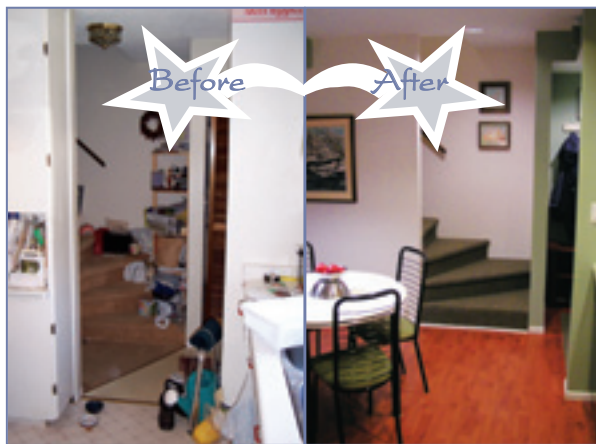


Organization by design

by Daine B. Halley

WHEN I TELL PEOPLE THAT I AM AN INTERIOR DESIGNER AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZER THEY SEEM TO UNDERSTAND THE DESIGNING AND ARE NOT QUITE SURE ABOUT THE ORGANIZING. IN BC THE ORGANIZING PROFESSION IS RELATIVELY NEW, ALTHOUGH PEOPLE HAVE BEEN PERFORMING THE TASKS OF THE JOB FOR THEMSELVES OR OTHERS WITHOUT AN IDENTIFIABLE LABEL.

As we engage in more activities and purchase more stuff, our homes can become cramped and overcrowded. We tend to run out of space, and end up with nowhere to store our favourite and treasured belongings, not to mention all the other stuff we accumulate. What do we



do? Build a garage? Buy a bigger home?

While these options may work for some, for others the practical solution is to get organized. Look at the before and after photos. They clearly show how careful planning and clever use of materials can transform an entryway from unsightly clutter into an easy-to-maintain, welcoming space.

An important tip on getting organized is to address why you have clutter. Is it because you don't have time? Are you a procrastinator? Are items in the wrong place, when they could easily be kept somewhere else?

Whatever the reasons, knowing what is in your home and how you want your living space to look is something to get clear on. There are people who have an innate ability to have everything in the right place, while others are a bit more challenged. Thanks to professional organizers, the not so organized no longer have to go it alone.

I tend to look at what works for people in their lives, at areas where they consistently and easily achieve results. I get them to look at how they can transfer processes that achieve results to organizing their space. The key is developing a strategy to keep organized. People don't really change, but to work with what is already working can produce lasting solutions.

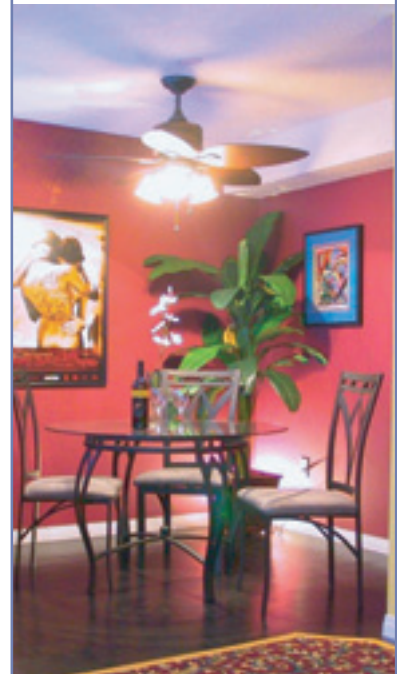
Bringing order to a home does not have to be a mystery. With the help of a professional organizer, you can create a process that keeps you focused on the space you want. Like having a fitness coach, when you feel you can't get the results you want, a professional organizer can cheer you on and keep your organizing goals in sight.

Costs for organizing, like any other professional service, vary according to client needs. Some people need to know what needs to be done and do most of the hands-on work on their own. Others are too busy and need someone to plan and organize for them.

Daine Halley is principal of Comet Interior Design. For more information on getting organized, visit www.organizersincanada.com



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