

# Decorating Trends

## Tips On Making Your Home Clutter-Free

(NAPSA)—Though Americans know urban sprawl when they see it, many don't recognize it in their own homes, often cluttered with unnecessary furniture and odds and ends stored everywhere.

According to organizing expert Iyna Bort Caruso, author of "The Everything Home Storage Solutions Book," the best time to put your home in order is right now.

The good news is that, these days, solutions to contain the sprawl are as functional as they are stylish. But you do need a game plan. "Take inventory of each room of your home," Caruso suggests. "Toss out or donate rarely used items and then find a place for orphan essentials that don't have a dedicated home. That way, you'll spend less time hunting things down in places they don't belong."

### Clutter Busters

Clutter busters love versatile pieces that can be mixed and matched to suit the need. For example, JCPenney's modular storage units are individual drawers, shelves and cubes that can be combined in unlimited ways. These sturdy any-room pieces, in maple or white, fit effortlessly



from room to room and job to job.

Double-duty furniture is an ideal solution to make the most of your space, especially when square footage is limited. The JCPenney Elsa Bed Bench by Studio is a chic way to transform an entryway or bedroom with added seating and storage. It has a flip-up seat with generous storage space inside.



For the living room or den, the Treasures Coffee Table is an ideal complement to any traditional decor, with its sturdy plank top and distressed pine or white finish. Less is more with a Custom Cube Storage Ottoman,



hand sewn and upholstered in a choice of four fabrics. The ottoman can be used as seating, a small table or storage for books, magazines, toys or other odds and ends that need to be stashed away.

### Kids' Rooms And Playrooms

Kids' rooms and playrooms are always whirlwinds of activity. To contain the games, toys and home-



work projects, keep it simple and keep it fun. At JCPenney, for example, you can find a Locker Storage Collection that's whimsical yet practical. A red-panel locker in a

silver finish comes with a removable hanger rod and shelf for ample storage. The companion four-drawer dresser is cleverly designed to allow multiple units to seamlessly blend side by side.

"When we streamline our living space by purging the clutter, we transform our homes into sanctuaries of order and calm," says Caruso. "The ripple effect is astounding."

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