



## How to Organize Your Dresser—and Never Lose Socks or Tangle Jewelry Again

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"How to organize your dresser" is one of those things you might ponder, well, every single morning you go to open your dresser ... only to cringe at the crazy jumble within. Those tangled socks, balled-up undies, and knotted necklaces are the reason this spot takes second place in the messiest drawer contest (next to [the junk drawer](#), of course). To save your sanity and make getting ready in the morning easier, we've got expert advice for organizing the little things in your bureau.

### The best dresser organizer, revealed





[Photo by Interior Sanctuary](#)

For the ultimate in organization, turn to a sectioned grid. These individual cubbies are perfectly sized for a single bra, pair of socks, or rolled-up belt. Have no budget for these wooden inserts? Check your recycling bin for cardboard boxes.

**Darla DeMorrow**, the genius behind HeartWorkOrganizing, likes to reuse shoe boxes. But if you don't have one on hand, you can probably find a tissue box, she says. "Tissue boxes with the tops cut off are my favorite frugal drawer dividers."

As you arrange the drawer, think about how you wear the items, says **Jennifer Snyder**, an organizing pro at Neat as a Pin. "For example, divide socks by sporty and dress and underwear by Spanx, every day, and special occasion," she says.

## Dresser organizers can also go by rows



[Photo by Lisa Adams, LA Closet Design](#)

Row dividers are another way to vastly simplify your morning routine. You can even go the Victoria's Secret route and color code your intimates to make it easier to find that pretty lavender number for date night. Be sure to measure carefully before committing to a purchase. In addition to wood, plastic, mesh, or linen inserts are also good options.

"These kinds of compartments are essential for small items, because most drawers are deeper than they need to be for socks and accessories," explains **Marty Basher**, a home organization expert at Modular Closets. If you try to organize bras and underwear without dividers of some kind, they'll end up in layers, which equals mess.

## Should you fold or roll your clothes?

Once you have your organizing methods picked out, turn your attention to how you'll put these little items away. Socks should be rolled into a spiral cylinder, states Basher.

"Not only is folding them difficult, but they don't stay that way," she explains. Rolled socks are easier to make, store, and display, she adds. The same rolling method can also be used for tank tops and tights.

Have a couple of sad and lonely single socks? Carve out a section in your top drawer for these oddballs, suggests Basher.

"If your laundry turns up a single sock or two, place it in this cubby of the drawer and then occasionally pull them all out and see how many matches you can make," she says.

## How to organize a jewelry drawer



[Photo by Eggersmann Kitchens | Home Living](#)

Dividers made specially to hold jewelry are ideal, especially if you can devote an entire drawer to this design. Edit your pile of jewelry carefully before committing each item to its new, cushioned home.

To maximize your real estate, hit up a closet accessory store for a layered tray system, says Basher. "Look for ones that will stack to fit your drawer size, and you'll double or triple your space," she says.

Are you crafty? If so, pick up some Mod Podge and decoupage a tray for your drawer, suggests **Cynthia O'Hara**, aka the Harried Housewife. "Look around the house for paper sources like greeting cards, wrapping paper, or pages from magazines," she says.

## Jewelry storage made even easier





[Photo by Astleford Interiors, Inc.](#)

Knots be gone! Do your jewelry a favor and hang up some of the more troublesome chains and poke small baubles into an earring tree. Displaying chunky bracelets and chokers on little rods not only keeps your dresser organized, it also adds visual interest to this piece of furniture.

Rods and racks are probably best for costume jewelry, say experts. "You could also use plastic ice trays to hold earrings and coiled bracelets," notes Basher.

Or dig around in your kitchen for unused teacups and arrange them on a dresser-top tray. "I'd recommend keeping only expensive, 'real' jewelry in a drawer and use velvet inserts for these items," says Snyder.

## Consider a tray



Corral important things in a chic tray.

HiConsumption.com

Critical items need their own, visible home, so shop for a tray that's the right size and style. Your wallet, sunglasses, keys, phone, and favorite lip gloss can all live there on top of your dresser.

"I like to have a pretty dish on my bureau to hold the things I wear every day," says Snyder. You can do the same in your guest bedrooms. Visitors will appreciate a spot to stash their spare change and ticket stubs.