



IN ITS PLACE



Kitchen

Mindy Godding of Space Matters

The kitchen is often the most disorganized room in the house, Mindy Godding notes, because it's a central meeting point where people and things tend to congregate. "Most people try to do too much in their kitchen space," she says. "The most common pitfall is that they're trying to manage the household from the kitchen space. Paperwork, incoming mail, schoolwork, permission slips — it all starts to conflict with the main mission of the kitchen."

Tips of the Trade

1. Shelf Stackers

This graduated stacking concept helps avoid "negative" space. "It's a simple rack that allows us to make use of wasted vertical space," explains Godding. "It's very inexpensive; great for splitting up tall stacks of dishes." A word of caution about expandable stackers: Make sure they are sturdy. Opt for a style that includes an added bar for security.

2. Glide-Out Shelving

Turn your shelves into pullout drawers with these custom-installed products. "They allow you full accessibility to the back of shelves," says Godding. Local manufacturer Shelf Conversions in Ashland is using high-grade Baltic Birch plywood to produce quality items that help you pack more items in, in the same amount of space.

3. Back-of-Door Storage

"The back of the pantry door is often unused space," says Godding. She suggests mounting baskets on the back of the door or hanging a clear vinyl pocket storage system [usually used for shoes, but even better for baggies, spices or sauce packets]. "I like to put the kids' items in the lower pockets for self-serve snacking and lunch-making," says Godding. You can also use the top, out-of-reach pockets for medicines and the lower pockets for crayons or pencils. *For more information, call 355-7330.*