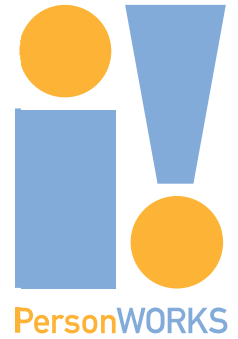


IN THIS NEWS LETTER, WE WILL DISCUSS...

- Conquering the Linen Closet
- Controlling the Chaos That is Your Car
- 3 Steps to a More Organized Garage



## Conquering the Linen Closet

Linen closets are wondrous places. They can also be disaster areas if you don't know how to maintain them. For one thing, I find that they usually suffer from narrow shelving. This can be a challenge when you have large towels, pillows and blankets to store. Remember the age-old saying **"If you continue to do things the same old way, you'll get the same old results!"** So **GET CREATIVE** and move things around. One grand idea is to take the large items, such as blankets, and move them into another closet, like the master bedroom closet. You can also purchase under-the-bed storage containers like these: (<http://tinyurl.com/4oqq7l>). If you don't use your extra blankets and pillows then a good way to go is using space bags: (<http://tinyurl.com/48cno5>).

To avoid overflow, I would recommend not purchasing bulk items since there is rarely enough room in anyone's linen closet for 50 bars of soap or 64-ounce bottles of shampoo and conditioner! Keep in mind that just because it's a linen closet doesn't mean you have to only use it for linens or toiletries. **GET CREATIVE!** For example, the linen closet can be a perfect place to put your overflow bath toys—stored in a cute bucket, or crafting supplies—if you don't have a craft room. Just remember only store items that actually fit, or it will always be chaotic.



# Controlling the Chaos That is Your Car

If you're like me, you spend a fair amount of time in your car, whether you're on your way to work, picking up the kids, fetching the dry cleaning or going on a road trip—so it can get cluttered with a variety of items. There are extreme cases where your car gets completely out of hand; I bet you know what I'm talking about! No need to panic or waste time feeling guilty! The good news is, there are so many great organizing tools out there to help restore your car to a mobile oasis.

If you have kids, you may have a mini-van or a station wagon. If this is the case, this is a great way to keep your mobile entertainment supplies organized: <http://tinyurl.com/46tr55> This may just help maintain your sanity while driving on long road trips with the family! Although it's made for CDs and videos, it can easily be used for storing coloring books, books and toys  
**—GET CREATIVE!**

If you work from your car, you probably have files and paper work all over the place. Instead keep the mess all in one place with this amazing file and laptop organizer that will fit most cars, SUVs and mini-vans: <http://tinyurl.com/3wp3tg>.

This item is perfect for when you are off to meet a new client, or are on the road for a business trip—everything is at your fingertips!

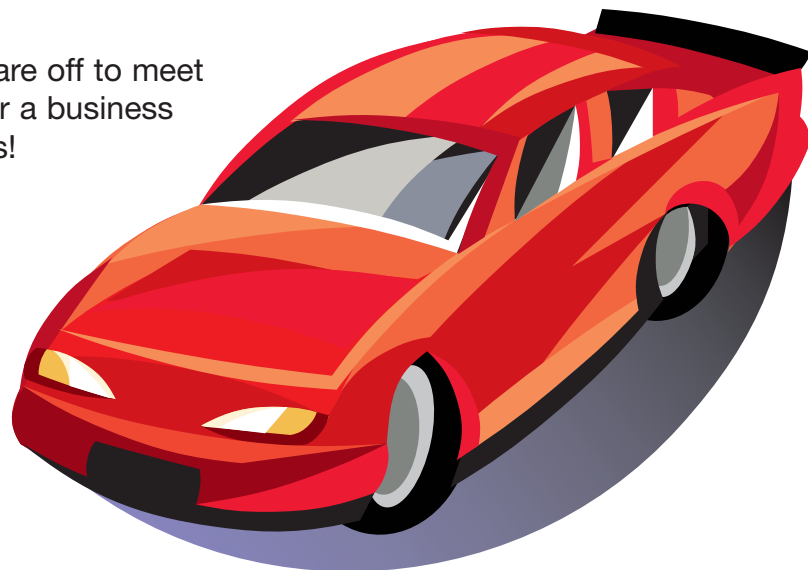
For road trips this is perfect to hold paper paraphernalia that you gather along the way, along with a water bottle and hand held devices: <http://tinyurl.com/4hggmy>

If it is just you, travelling solo, this will keep everything in arms reach and safe from falling off your passenger seat: <http://tinyurl.com/4grkqp>  
I strongly recommend keeping your belongings all in one place in a container so that it is easier for you to find, whether you have a driving buddy or not.

For toys that you want to just keep in the car these containers are a great way to go: <http://tinyurl.com/3fvp37> or <http://tinyurl.com/4vhnc1>

Don't leave home without an essential emergency kit: <http://tinyurl.com/3p9xgn>

The key to an organized car is never using it as a storage facility for everything you own. It's ok to have the essentials in there, just be sure to keep them safely contained and the messy car will be no more!



# 3 Steps to a More Organized Garage

Summer is the perfect time for organizing your garage. Just use these 3 Easy Steps and you will be on your way to a glamorous garage.

## Sell or donate what you don't use anymore

When you start sorting through your garage you will be surprised how much you don't actually need or use anymore. If it's worth more than \$50.00 I suggest selling it, if you have the time. You could use eBay, Craig's List, or Bonazle.com. It will take you a little time to put the items up for sale, but it's worth it, if it's worth over \$50.00. Create piles to sell/donate, keep and toss. If you don't have a lot of room to move around and make piles in your garage, use sticky notes with tape to start. (Remember my old tip? Sticky notes rarely stick, so use tape 😊)

## Create a garage that has designated areas

The second most important thing to do is to create designated areas in your garage. That way when you go to put something away, or look for something you know where to look. You can use cardboard boxes or buckets to sort and keep sorting areas tidy. I suggest using the following categories:

- Gardening
- Tools
- Seasonal (Holidays)
- Outdoor activities (Skiing, boating, camping etc...)
- Kid's toys (Bikes, sand box toys, balls, etc...)
- Extracurricular activities (Sports!)

## Contain and Store

After you sort your "stuff" into designated areas, it's time to purchase containers and shelves. When you are putting your stuff away, be sure to separate things out onto shelves. For example, one shelf could be designated for camping gear, while another could be for skiing equipment and so on.

After you finish these three simple steps you will be on your way to a more organized garage.

