

Order in the house



Declutter your wardrobe and you'll have more time for the things that really matter, as we show one reader

MORNINGS were hell for Pauline Duff. What to wear? Where to find it? And why is everything always so crushed?

Duff, 34, taught social science and business in NSW schools for nine years. Then, 22 months ago, she took the risk of her life and launched Coconut Ice, a homewares store in Oatley in Sydney's south.

Putting so much energy into her business meant Duff had little time to keep things sorted at home. First her home office turned to chaos; then her own wardrobe became a mess.

"I used to waste so much time trying to decide what to wear," she says. "My possessions were all over the place. Being disorganised made it frustrating looking for items because I didn't have a place for everything."

Your wardrobe is the space



you look at every day, usually when pressured for time, says Carol Posener, who runs a business called Get Organised and has written a book on the issues called *Get Organised: A Practical Guide to Organising Your Home and Office* (Lothian).

As she says, "Most people want clever spaces in wardrobes, with the right dimensions for their clothes and accessories."

"The key to an organised wardrobe is perfectly-sized compartments, either built in or made from boxes that maximise the overall use of our wardrobe space."

"When I buy new items I try to cull the equivalent number to create space. Ask yourself how many clothes you really need. The simple rule is that if you haven't worn it for a year, give it away or recycle it!"

Posener estimates the average person wears 20 per cent of their wardrobe 80 per cent of the time. And, according to a survey by iVillage.co.uk, the average woman's wardrobe is worth just under A\$6000.

As for Duff, since we decluttered her wardrobe she's had more time to focus on her business.

"Being organised equates to a better quality of life. Now my wardrobe is clutter-free I save time getting dressed, I have a place for everything and time to think about my business and how to develop my ideas." **le**

Being disorganised made it frustrating looking for items because I didn't have a place for everything.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JULIE HOWARD

IN ITS PLACE

IKEA Wicker Baskets, \$19 each.
Pink and white magazine holders and boxes from Kikki.k (memorabilia box \$34.95, photo box \$34.95, magazine boxes \$19.95, My Dream Home folder \$39.95, My Garden folder \$39.95).

Striped Linen Storage bin from Nordic Fusion \$84 for set of three.

Vintage sign from Sorrento Homewares \$55.



Large pink crystal, from Sorrento Homewares, \$24.95.

Fragrant Rose, from Sorrento Homewares, \$9.95.

White coat hangers, \$1.50 each or 60 for \$40, from Target.

Polypropylene storage boxes in blue and white, \$5.50 each, from The Last Dairy Company.

Rose linen water \$24.95, from L'Occitane De Provence.

STOCKISTS

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