

# Organization: Class 5

# Top 15 Storage Solutions



Below you'll find my top 15 picks of storage products for your home, which I believe can solve the majority of the organizing and storage dilemmas in the average household.

The solutions listed below almost always can be used in multiple ways, so even if you stop using it in one area of your home chances are you can find a new use for it somewhere else. (Repurpose!)

I haven't listed where you can buy exact products because sizes, shapes, colors and patterns will differ based on your personality. But ALL of these items can be bought in some form or the other from the stores listed below (online or in-store). If you're doing an online search, search the name of the solution (eg. wall mounted storage) and you'll get a bunch of options.

This list will get you thinking about what type of an item might work best for you and your organizational challenge. I'm also hoping it will help you with some "aha" moments so you can utilize some space in your home you hadn't considered for storage yet.

Remember, you don't want to use storage to store clutter or unnecessary items that aren't adding value to your family. Keep and store the things that fulfill you and get you closer to your goal of living a more simplified and organized life. (Of course, I couldn't give up this opportunity for one final reminder!) ;)

Varieties of all these items can be purchased at:

- Target ([www.target.com](http://www.target.com))
- The Container Store ([www.thecontainerstore.com](http://www.thecontainerstore.com))
- Walmart ([www.walmart.com](http://www.walmart.com))
- Home Depot ([www.homedepot.com](http://www.homedepot.com))
- Lowes ([www.lowes.com](http://www.lowes.com))

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### #1: Wall Mounted Storage And Organizers

One of the most underutilized storage areas in any home is typically the walls. Adding a wall mounted storage unit or organizer can help you by keeping items at eye level, where you can easily see and use them.

Plus, putting things on the walls keeps things up off the floor too, so you can avoid accidents and breaking things.

**Ideas For Use:** Tools in the garage, files/books in the office, kids papers/books above their desk



### #2: Hooks

Hooks are another great way to keep things off the floor. Even when you don't have room for a whole organizing system mounted on your wall, you most likely have a space

**Ideas For Use:** Jackets, backpacks, hats, sweatshirts, umbrellas, etc.



### #3: Over The Door Storage And Organizers

I love these! Another underutilized area to store things is on doors. This can be such wasted space that you can easily add shelves, pockets, etc. so you can store all kinds of stuff -- in a handy place which is still out of the way.

**Ideas For Use:** Groceries in your pantry, shoes behind your closet, purses behind your bedroom door, socks/underwear behind your kids' closet, gloves and hats on your coats closet



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### #4: Storage Cabinets

Sometimes you simply need more storage space than you have and other times, you just need to keep stuff out of sight. Cabinets give you much of the same storage space as shelves, but with a door you can close to hide the stuff inside.

Cabinets come in a variety of colors, sizes and depths to fit almost any area of your home.

**Ideas For Use:** Extra cleaning products, tools and paints, gardening supplies, crafts, board games



### #5: Turntables (a.k.a. Lazy Susans)

The classic lazy susan, also known as a turntable, should not be underestimated! An oldie but goodie, especially in your pantry or kitchen cabinets. Shelves can get crammed with stuff, especially very deep ones, which makes it difficult to get to items in the back.

Lazy susans, and similar step risers, help you create rows or groupings of items on a deep shelf while still being able to easily access everything.

**Ideas For Use:** Pantry, kitchen cabinet, deep shelving in the garage, master closet or linen closet. Also great for kids markers/crayons so they can rotate it to find what they want



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### #6: Storage Containers, Tubs & Bins

Storage containers, tubs and bins are great to use in your home, both for long term storage of items and also for an everyday place to hold items when you're not using them.

Each tub or container should be sorted with items of the same group like: Christmas ornaments, balls, workout equipment or crafts. Don't forget to label!

Also, for items that will be stored away (like seasonal items) it's really helpful to use clear bins, so you can see exactly what's inside.

**Ideas For Use:** Toys, seasonal decorations, clothes you're saving for your next child, legal papers (taxes), cords/wires, blankets/comforters, seasonal clothes



### #7: Baskets (With And Without Lids)

Another similar type of solution to storage containers are storage baskets, both with or without lids. But I like baskets for everyday use and storage since they look nicer than plastic bins and tubs.

They're not intended for long-term storage so use them for daily things. Since many times baskets are seen by you and others this is where you can have fun with your products. Baskets are available in tons of textures, colors and patterns. Personalize them to your style.

**Ideas For Use:** Mail, remotes, throws, stuffed animals and toys, magazines and scarves



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### #8: Dual Purpose Furniture

Many types of furniture can be double as storage. Some have hooks and storage while others convert from a headboard to comforter storage. Think dual storage when you're shopping for furniture.

**Ideas For Use:** Futon that serves as a bed and sofa, coat rack that has hooks and seat and storage ottoman that can be used as a coffee table or seat



### #9: Bags!

This may seem obvious but it's often overlooked. Bags are ideal storage solutions for all sorts of things. They come in all kinds of varieties and for all kinds of uses: everything from zip lock to vacuum sealed.

There are huge bags which can be used to hold bulky items while others are small and can help you organize small stuff that needs to stay together.

**Ideas For Use:** Big bags for sweaters, comforters and other fabrics. Small bags for puzzle pieces, stationery accessories, small packets, toiletries and pens/crayons



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### #10: Storage Shelves/Bookshelves

Storage shelving is awesome and you can get all kinds, from beautiful wood bookcases to metal utility shelves, and in all kinds of heights, depths and sizes.

Modular shelving (the 12x12) box sizes is very popular and great for storing and organizing tons of little things.

Consider your organizing style, whether you like to see items on shelves (exposed to everyone) or have contents hidden.

**Ideas For Use:** Books, photos, toys, accessories, hats/scarves/gloves, socks/underwear, tools, crafts



### #11: Drawer Organizers And Dividers

Drawers in any room can get messy so I love drawer dividers to create designated space within the drawers for various items. It's so much easier to find and put back your stuff when things are compartmentalized. (Even in your dreaded junk drawer!)

**Ideas For Use:** Socks, underwear, screws/nails, sewing items, crafts, writing supplies, utensils, toiletries, medicines, first aid items, hair accessories, jewelry



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### #12: Hanging Storage & Organizers

I love hanging organizers since none of my closets have built ins. They're inexpensive and easy to move around as needs change. Some are designed to hang directly from the ceiling, while others hang from rods in your closet or other such places.

These can be a great way to utilize otherwise wasted space, creating shelving, baskets, or holders for all types of items.

**Ideas For Use:** Purses, shoes, sweaters and other clothes, jewelry, stuffed animals, throw pillows, towels



### #13: Filing Cabinets And Other Paper Storage Solutions

Filing cabinets are essential to hold all your paper for files, especially those that are needed for long-term storage (like taxes and other legal documents).

There are also portable filing available that may be more convenient for your "Action Papers" like bills that need to be paid and forms that need to be filled out.

Either way, they are essential to keeping your papers organized to save you a ton of time and energy.

**Ideas For Use:** Legal documents, action items, manuals/warranties, insurance and medical papers





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### #14: Storage Carts

Movable storage carts can come in handy all over your home. An awesome feature is that many of them have wheels so you can move the stuff you need to use into an area when needed, and then wheel it back out to another area to store later.

**Ideas For Use:** Cleaners in the laundry room, appliances in the kitchen, tools in the garage, for crafts or sewing items in a closet



### #15: Overhead Storage: Use The Space Above You

Just like using your wall space can create a lot of storage area you may not be using right now, the same can be said for overhead storage.

Obviously, you've got to have a high enough ceiling so you don't whack your head on stuff, but the space above our heads is great for little used items that are bulky (but not too heavy).

**Ideas For Use:** Bikes, tools, paints, gardening stuff

