

# What's Your Organizing Style?

Before you, or anyone can get organized, you need to figure out what your definition of "organized" actually is. If you don't have a clear goal, there's just no way you're going to achieve it except by some freak accident, right? The questions below will help you figure out your style so that you know exactly what it is you're working toward. Then you can go ahead and achieve it, on your own, or with help.

This quiz is also based on the theory that everyone is an organizer. Knowing your organizing style can help you use your strengths to compensate for your weaknesses. Find out more about how to do this at the end of the quiz.

1. The way I feel about my life/work currently is:

- (a) I'm doing my best to keep things simple
- (b) Things are out of control.
- (c) There is plenty of room for improvement
- (d) It would be great if I could just get everything "streamlined"
- (e) I'm overwhelmed
- (f) I'm actually pretty organized, it's just that I've fallen behind/ can't keep up

2. I use \_\_\_\_\_ of my possessions on a regular basis.

- (a) 75- 100%
- (b) 50- 75%
- (c) 25- 50%
- (d) 25% or less
- (e) It depends on your definition of "use"
- (f) It depends on your definition of "a regular basis"

3. I know where something is by:

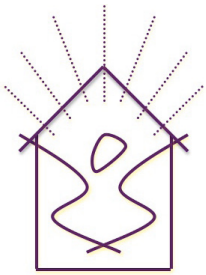
- (a) I just know
- (b) Using a complex system
- (c) Searching until I find it
- (d) Asking someone else for help (or just buying a new one)
- (e) Luck
- (f) Remembering where I put it, usually

4. When other people come over...

- (a) I make sure my space is neat and clear
- (b) I feel nervous or anxious
- (c) I definitely have to clean up first for practical reasons
- (d) I have to clean up first to make a good impression
- (e) I am proud of my stuff
- (f) They enjoy good hospitality

5. When I see pictures of amazing spaces I am most likely to feel:

- (a) Motivated to get to work
- (b) Jealous and/or dissatisfied with my life
- (c) Inspired; I get ideas
- (d) Indifferent
- (e) Frustrated by my own lack of space
- (f) Annoyed by how unrealistic they are



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6. Select the most accurate statement:

- (a) I only keep what I need or love, and nothing more.
- (b) I keep more than I need; I get pretty attached to my stuff.
- (c) I save supplies, resources, and inspiration for projects.
- (d) I save resources or records for future reference.
- (e) I like to surround myself with interesting/beautiful/inspiring/nostalgic things.
- (f) I save everything just in case.

7. I put things away:

- (a) Regularly, it's an important part of my routine
- (b) All the time, sometimes compulsively
- (c) Occasionally, when stuff starts to pile up.
- (d) Never. Other people do this for me
- (e) Wherever they will fit
- (f) Um, I wouldn't know where to start

8. I prefer my space to be:

- (a) Spacious
- (b) Perfect
- (c) Beautiful
- (d) Functional
- (e) Cozy
- (f) Comfortable and inviting

9. Select the statement that best describes your values:

- (a) Simplicity is very important to me.
- (b) I like when everything is "under control."
- (c) I like having the freedom to act on inspiration.
- (d) I enjoy my focused, fast-paced life.
- (e) My memories are precious to me.
- (f) I love taking care of other people.

10. Chaos and disorganization in my life comes from:

- (a) Having too much stuff
- (b) Systems that don't work well enough
- (c) My own habits
- (d) Being super busy
- (e) Not having enough space
- (f) People I live or work with