

The Living Collective

PANTRY ORGANIZATION

Checklist

INTRO

o Why is it important?

- Saves time – especially with it comes to packing lunch for you and the kids.
- Meal prep: Know what you have: this will help you plan your dinners.
- Know what you need for your grocery runs. Check the pantry and easily decipher what it is your'e missing since everything is categorized!

o What's the overwhelm?

- Let's figure out what it is that's stopping you. List out the top 5 reasons on why you DON'T want to get started. Let's list the top 5 reasons what how it would feel if you DID have everything organized. By seeing it listed on paper, you can understand the motivation behind why you've been stalling, and just why you should get the job done.

o Importance of storage containers:

By having everything IN a container or bin it's not only aesthetically pleasing, but will allow your brain to understand how much you have, and quickly assess what you need to buy. It's also easier to track expiration dates that will aid in meal prep/planning. Once you get a system in place, you'll also notice the ease it creates with kids. Having an 'after school snack section' or a 'lunch only section,' will help keep you, your kid's, and your kid's friend's visitors all sane.

o Steps to organize the pantry

- Take out all items so they're on display – yes, we mean everything.
- Trash expired items, or items you're saving but no one likes - it's time for them to go!
- Group similar products together
 - Chips with chips
 - Canned good
 - Rice and pasta
 - Bread and tortillas
 - Cereals, oatmeal
 - Nuts
 - Condiments
 - Paper product, plates, cups, bowls
 - Baking goods
 - Snacks specific to kids lunches

o Space plan - get strategic

- Measure space for appropriate products, what bins will fit with the space you have?
- Purchase products (see PDF with our recommended product list also for sale)
- Accessibility
 - Think about what you want kids to access, what you use most, etc.
 - Place product in pantry to visualize spacing: take picture with no food items in them yet - you'll need it!

o Time for Action

- Take storage bins out of pantry from top shelf - we're going shelf by shelf.
- Add appropriate categorized food items to containers.
- Oldest items place towards the front in order of expiration dates.
- If items are out of their original packaging, use a dry erase marker to notate expiration date on bottom or back of bin.
- Label bins with what product is.
- Continue process shelf by shelf, you may need to adjust where items are placed considering your space, but that's ok.
- Make sure labels are facing outward.

Some of our favorite articles:

Pantry Organization Ideas

10 Steps to an Organized Pantry

Organizing Your Pantry by Zone

15 Clever Pantry Organization Ideas

5 Ways to Organize Your Pantry

How to Organize Your Pantry

INSPO



For a list of our favorite products,
please visit our blog post here:

[https://www.thelivingcollective.co/post/fave-
amazon-pantry-products](https://www.thelivingcollective.co/post/fave-amazon-pantry-products)

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printable check-list

- ☐ Remove all items from pantry (yes..everything!)
- ☐ Trash expired items, or items sitting in your pantry for 7+ months
- ☐ Group similar products together (outside of the pantry)
examples:
 - grains such as rice, pasta, quinoa
 - cereals, oatmeal
 - canned goods
 - nuts
 - condiments
 - paper product such as plates, cups, bowls, etc.
 - snacks specific to kids lunches
- ☐ Space plan/measure shelves for height and width
questions to ask yourself:
 - What products will fit within your space?
 - Measure shelves for height and width
 - What foods do you want within reach of kids, adults
 - What products do you use most often?
- ☐ Purchase any products needed
- ☐ Place product in pantry to visualize spacing
- ☐ Start from the top down, add appropriate categorized food to bins
Tips:
 - Place items oldest to newest regarding their expiration dates

- If items are out of their original packaging, use a dry erase marker to notate expiration date on bottom of back of bin



Label bins accordingly



Continue shelf by shelf, making adjustments as needed

Don't forget to take your own before and after pics! Please feel free to tag us on Instagram @thelivingcollective.co

We love to see our client's progress!

