

Clean Up Your Act With A Professional Organizer

POSTED: 1:54 pm EDT May 3, 2005
UPDATED: 2:00 pm EDT May 3, 2005

RALEIGH, N.C. -- Spring cleaning presents a dilemma for many people. They know it needs to be done, but the clutter is usually so overwhelming that they don't know where to start and when to stop.

That's where professional organizers like Geralin Thomas come in.

"You have to have a plan. If you don't have a plan, you will fail. Fail to plan, plan to fail," said Thomas, of Metropolitan Organizing.

FeedRoom



 Couple Wants To Get Organized

 **NBC 17 FeedRoom**

 **Online:** [National Association of Professional Organizers](#)

Thomas used her skills recently to help Molly and Chandler Thompson straighten up their basement so he could have an entertainment area and she could have a workspace.

"I come in and tell them I think you need to establish zones," Thomas said. "I think you need, in their situation, a man zone and a woman zone."

She decides things will work best by swapping two rooms in the basement, leaving the entertainment area in the smaller space.

"The recliner doesn't go. The recliner will find a home in here somewhere," Chandler Thompson said.

"The problem is, in my mind, it's not a keeper. In his mind, it is a keeper," Molly Thompson said of the recliner.

With too much stuff and overflowing closets, Thomas said getting organized is also all about zones -- donations, repairs and trash.

"Once we have everything grouped, we can start moving it out," she said.

Chandler Thompson left for work, trusting something will be left for the man zone, but with the recliner already in limbo, his wife and Thomas soon started discussing the future of his rug.

"I knew I should have stayed there," he said after being notified by phone that his prized possessions were in danger of being tossed. "I should have taken the day off."

After two days under Thomas' tutelage -- and some extra weekend time on their own -- the Thompsons were pleased with the results.

"It literally felt like a huge weight had been lifted," Molly Thompson said. "It was so much fun to look at everything finished, and now everything is so much more efficient and flows together well."

Her husband was able to salvage his recliner and his rug, and he was so inspired that he also built an entertainment center for his space.

Copyright 2005 by [NBC17.com](#). All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed.