

## Five Neat Tips for Decluttering

Do you have piles of stuff in various locations around your home? Are you hanging on to them because of a fear you may need them one day or guilt that you wasted good money on them? There are some good reasons to hang onto things you don't use such as sentimentality or the intention to do something with them or sell them. It is when these piles of unused items start to interfere with your enjoyment of your home or get in the way of other activities that it's time to get rid of them. Fear and guilt are not good enough reasons for keeping things you don't need. Below are five top tips for helping you in your decluttering;

1. Throwing it away is wasteful! Usually we are unable to let go of clutter because we feel guilty about throwing things away. Letting go does not have to mean literally throwing it in the bin. There are many more options such as giving to a friend, selling on the internet, recycling or giving it to charity. There are great sites on the internet that enable you to sell things that may have value to someone else. There is even a great site for giving away to charity where those interesting in receiving will come to you to pick the items up ([www.agora.co.il](http://www.agora.co.il)).
2. I spent a lot of money! Don't let the guilt hold you back. We all make spontaneous purchases that we later regret or find we have no use of; a prime example is that exercise bicycle that is used as a coat hanger in so many homes. However much you have spent on something if you are not using it then you are getting no value from it. If you cannot return it to the store (which in most cases you cannot) then the money has already gone. The best thing you can do is to let go of the guilt and then get rid of the clutter.
3. It was a gift! Whatever the item it was surely given to you with good intentions. If it is something that you don't like and don't use then you can either re-gift it, donate it, sell it or exchange it for something that you do need and love which was most likely the intention of the giver in the first place.
4. Donating really does feel good! Try donating things to charities, organizations, shelters or advertise them on "Agora". Many of the things you no longer have need of will be so appreciated by those who do need them. Clothes and toiletries will be appreciated by women's and homeless shelters, books and games by children's preschools and larger or electrical items can be donated to centers like Wizo or to individuals on "Agora". Helping others gives you a satisfaction like no other!
5. Keep it Simple! When our lives are cluttered and chaotic it is hard to enjoy the simple things in life. We all deserve to feel at peace in our own home. By decluttering your home you will be saving space, saving time on cleaning and revitalizing previously unused areas of your home. You will also be amazed by how much you gain from decluttering. When your living space is clutter free, peaceful and simple so is the time you spend in your home.