



10 tips to keep kids organized

Stop rifling through clutter to find lost homework. Help your child get — and stay — organized with these easy tips.

1 Slack-proof their room

Use clearly labeled bins, binders and boxes to ensure everything has its place. Provide a large bulletin board for visual to-do's, schedules and reminders.



2 Stock up on supplies

Buy plenty of pencils, erasers, markers, folders and other necessities. Have staplers, hole punches and binder clips available to encourage organization.



3 Invest in a daily planner

Let your child choose a planner that creates excitement about staying organized. Get them started and offer tips for maintaining it.



4 Establish a routine

Keep activities consistent and easy to follow by allocating time frames. Build in time for homework, chores and the reward of screen time.



5 Prep for the day ahead

Avoid morning chaos by getting ready the night before. Pack lunches, school bags, sports equipment and anything else that you can grab and go.





6 Structure the weekend

Add “work” time to the weekend and make room for fun. Set aside time for homework, practice, room cleaning or other less-desired weekend tasks.

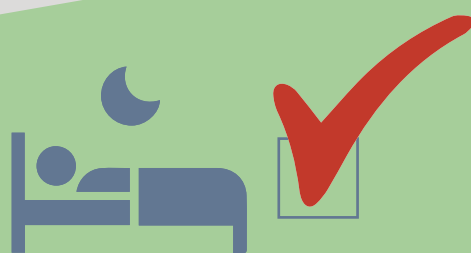
7 Post reminders

Give your child colorful sticky notes and encourage their use. Put them on mirrors, doors or other hard-to-miss places.



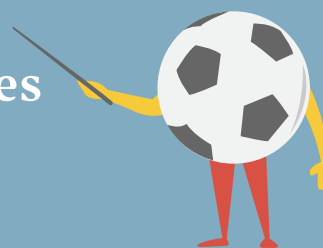
8 Introduce checklists

Whether it’s “5 things to pack for school” or “3 things to do before bed,” checklists keep kids on track while offering a sense of accomplishment.



9 Connect with teachers and coaches

Your child’s instructors can help you gauge their progress, and assist in creating an organizational strategy that suits them.



10 Be supportive

Monitor your child’s organization skills, praising them for even the smallest tasks. This can encourage your child to work harder, and help you recognize when they’re overwhelmed.



From the expert

“It’s important for kids to learn organization skills from a young age — helping them keep track of responsibilities, complete school work and manage stress. Setting habits now can help them down the road.”

— Dr. Kelsey Bradshaw, a clinical child psychologist with Sharp Mesa Vista Hospital