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["Providing Customized Solutions for Life Situations"](#)

[Get it Together! Keep it Together! Let Linda Help!](#)

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Linda's Organizing Tip for September 2007:

Professional Organizer?? What's that?

When I tell people about my business, many of them respond with that very question. Most people are not familiar with the many roles a professional organizer can take on, or the wide variety of help we can offer. In fact, my participation in the National Association of Professional Organizers (NAPO®) online members chat has widened my eyes to the huge variety of projects my colleagues are involved with. Perhaps the best known projects that professional organizers are hired to work on involve organizing and streamlining areas in the home or office (kitchens, basements, offices, garages, closets, art supplies, photography studios/collections, sheet and vocal music, scrapbooking, crafts, sewing/fabric, and workbenches/tools). Organizers are also working with individuals and families on schedules, roles, chore assignments, communication, and personal growth. Some organizers specialize in home clear outs, estate sales, coordination of moves and senior downsizing. Organizing financial and personal paperwork is a big category, as is helping people to use computerized financial software. The list is really endless and this is happening all over the country.

Professional organizers come from a wide variety of backgrounds, including education, business, accounting, psychology and parenting. This experience and training prepares organizers to do all kinds of projects with potential customers.

Clients also come from a myriad of backgrounds, including business owners, CEOs, stay-at-home moms, seniors, and professionals in areas such as education, law, and medicine. People choose to hire an organizer for many different reasons, but there is usually a trigger. Sometimes an event has occurred which makes a person feel "stuck" (an illness, divorce, move, new job, marriage, child, etc.) This might happen suddenly, or occur over time. Sometimes a client is anticipating some event in the future and wants help preparing for it. Middle aged people often want to begin to simplify their lives when their children are not local and they do not want to have to have them be responsible for eventually sorting their things.

NAPO® states that a [professional organizer](#) enhances the lives of clients by designing systems and processes, using organizing principles and by [transferring](#) organizing skills (this means teaching the skill in a way that the client can use and maintain independently). A professional organizer also educates the public on organizing solutions and the resulting benefits (which is the point of this tip ☺!). NAPO (pronounced NAY-poh) currently has close to 4,000 members throughout the U.S. and in 8 other countries and it is growing daily.

If you visit the [NAPO® website](#), you will find lots of information about organizing and organizers, including Frequently Asked Questions about how & why to get organized, how to hire an organizer and organizing tips.

I hope this provided some useful information about organizing.
As you can see, there are many opportunities for a professional organizer to help in anyone's life.
If you need help with an organizing project, call Simply Back to Basics.

*Please forward this tip to those you know who may be interested in organizing services.
If you have ideas or questions that could be the basis of future tips, please share.
I like to write about things directly relevant to my readers.*

I welcome all feedback about these articles. Please feel free to e-mail me anytime.
Unsubscribe by sending me an e-mail with "No Thanks" in the subject line.
Previous month's tips can be viewed at www.simplybacktobasics.com.

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