



Organize your "keepers" by getting them out of the closet and onto your walls

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Don't hide your stuff - use wall space to display it (and add colorful shelf paper for pop).
photo by Arieli Kay



You've worked hard to sort, toss and donate your possessions in an effort to clear out a cluttered room, or perhaps even your entire home.

What remains are the precious or useful items - the "keepers" - that your spouse, family and friends might consider clutter, but are important enough to you that you just can't consider parting with them.

Instead of carefully wrapping the items and packing them away, or hiding them in a dark corner of your home to become clutter again, display these items so they may be enjoyed or used. What follows are some examples of not-so-usual items you may be keeping and how you might show them off:

- Extra dining chairs hung on walls, ready to be taken down when needed
- Collage of photos, artwork, and other items in hallway to create a gallery to admire
- Ledges installed on living room walls for rotating (seasonal?) displays of photos, artwork, collectibles, and other décor
- Ledges installed on bedroom - especially children's room - walls for trophies, toys, dolls, photos of friends and family, and other current items
- Kitchen cabinet bulkhead space used to hold seldom-used (but still used on occasion) cooking tools, antique household items, baskets, and other lightweight items

For inspiration as you take your "keepers" out of the closet, try these links:

- Creative Home Decorating, Room by Room for an article about [displaying toys and kitchen collectibles](#)
- HGTV, for 100 ideas for [installing and decorating with shelves of all sizes and placements](#)
- Apartment Therapy, for ideas and photos for [hanging spare chairs on the walls](#)
- Zimbio.com for ideas on [how to use ledges](#) in your home
- Christy's Thrifty Decorating for [displaying items in the space above kitchen cabinets](#)

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