



How To Keep House



A THIRTY DAY PROGRAM THAT WILL TURN YOUR HOUSE INTO A MUSLIM HOME

As-Salaam-Alaikum!

Welcome to the "How To Keep House" area of our Muslim Girls Training and General Civilization Class. How *should* a Muslim home be kept? A Muslim home should be kept Clean, Peaceful, and well-repaired. We have learned from the Program designed by our Leader and Teacher, Messenger Elijah Muhammad, How to Keep House in this manner.

The Muslim home is an example, to all, of the highest form of cleanliness. Thirty days after you receive the following instructions on how to achieve your goal (a clean, peaceful and well-repaired home), as a Muslim Sister in the Nation of Islam, expect to have your home inspected by designated Sisters within your Class. These Sisters will come unannounced with checklists in hand to note how you have applied what you have been taught in this class.

GET RID OF CLUTTER

1. A good house keeper knows when it is time to throw a thing out.

- Keeping unnecessary items (old papers and magazines, clothes no one wears, old letters, cards, bottles, bills, toys, dishes, shoes etc.) causes clutter.
- If items must be kept, they should be kept neatly in a clearly labeled box.
- Each thing should have a specific practical place. For example, toys can be kept in a toybox in the play area.
- Some things may need several homes: pencil holders should be placed in the kitchen, at the main telephones and throughout the house where needed.
- Wicker baskets are great "homes" for things. They can hold pencils in a recreation room or study, hair accessories in the bedroom, or combs and brushes in the bathroom. They are also decorative, look good in almost any home decor, and keep things very close to where they will be used.
- The more convenient it is to put something away, the less likely it is to end up as clutter.
- Teaching children (or other family members) to put things away can be accomplished by consistent

modelling and insistence. Often organizational skills can also be taught in stages.

- Getting rid of clutter and learning new habits doesn't happen over night. Start now by not allowing new items clutter items to come into your home. Flyers, newspapers, bulletins, school newsletters, letters and bills are good examples. Though not all incoming clutter is paper-based, probably over half of it is. Once read or dealt with, anything of simple paper origin can go in the garbage can.
- A lot of incoming clutter hangs around the house simply because it was not dealt with when it arrived.
- One piece of invaluable advice is to make it a rule to never pick up a piece of paper twice. As much as possible, paper should only end up in your hands once. Often we read things and then put them away to do later. Later, of course, the entire thing must be sorted out of a pile of other junk, and reread. If things are dealt with immediately (or, in the case of bills, put away immediately) then they don't become clutter. Another thing that adds to disorganization and clutter in the home is that many people hang onto paper clutter (and other kinds of clutter as well) because they think they may need it down the road. Most clutter, as long as it has been dealt with, or has served its purpose, can be thrown out.

Day 1

Arm yourself with garbage bags take a deep breath and throw away all of the unnecessary items. ANYTHING that is NOT ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY for your family's well-being should be thrown out. This is an all day task. The larger the home or family, the more time it will take you to complete this task. You are well on your way to having a clutter-free home.



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