



Photo Organizing

- **Toss** ~ Not all pictures are keepers.
- **Sort & Edit** ~ Categorize and subcategories to sort by name, date or event.
- **Storage** ~ Photo boxes, albums or a computer backup system

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*While I enjoy the friendship of the seasons
I trust that nothing can make life a burden to me."*

—Henry David Thoreau, *Walden*

Rainy Day

The above quote from *Walden* caught my attention. Henry David Thoreau was talking about a rainy day which forced him to stay inside. Even though the gentle rain prevented him from hoeing his bean crop, he recognized that it provided the needed water to ensure an abundant harvest. As he sat inside, he contemplated the protection his cabin provided him. Thoreau was not lonely. He was quite comfortable with his own company and didn't even consider seeking external entertainment or companionship.

Rainy days are prevalent here in New England and what a blessing. It provides me the opportunity to change my daily routine. What about you? What will you do on the next rainy day that prevents you from working or exploring the out-of-doors? Will you hop into your car searching for distraction? Will you grab the telephone seeking companionship of a friend? Or, will you look around and say, "*Gee, I am comfortable and content right where I am.*"

Pull out your journal or a notebook and title a page, 'Rainy Days Ahead.' Start listing all the things you would like to do on those upcoming days. Here are a few ideas I discover this past year:

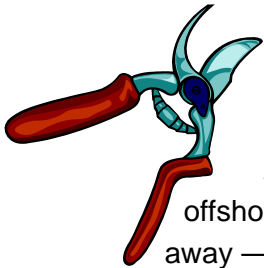
- Stay in bed and cuddle my cats. What a blessing to just be idle for a few hours.
- Listen to the rain pelting the windows, watch the rising steam from a mug of coffee, and just meditate. Reflect on the past, project into the future, be present in the moment.
- Curl up on the couch and read a riveting book.
- Purge the excess from my life: in a closet, a drawer, the pantry.
- Box up my collection of *give-aways* for the local donation center.
- Write thank-you notes.
- Surf the web for way-out interesting things.
- Grab my slicker, head outside and take rainy day pictures.

- Head to the attic, dust off a box, search its contents and make a decision. Will I keep, trash or donate?
- Clean out my file drawer to make room for something new in my life.
- Remove and wash the curtains from the windows. Enjoy the scenery while relishing the blessings the protection of my home provides.
- Watch an oldie movie and cry if I want to.
- Organize my photos into an album or photo story.
- Listen to my favorite music and dance around the room.
- Wash the kitchen floor.
- Learn to knit.

Cheers to the next rainy day. This is a day to enjoy my own company. What about you?

**“Learn to
pause...
or nothing
worthwhile
will catch
up to you.”**

—Doug King



Pruning Time

As I work in my garden, the thought of pruning, actually chopping off healthy offshoots, is a difficult concept to accept. I am mystified by the importance of cutting away — what appears to be thriving — in order to promote abundant blooming. But, all gardeners know the necessity of strategically snipping in order to strengthen rather than weaken. So I pondered the pruning psychology and decided that the same concept is true in getting and staying organized. It is important to prune away — clip, snip, cutting back — the unessential stuff in order to bloom with abundant living.

With the desire to live abundantly, I began to focus my attention on some strategic pruning. I worked in the kitchen to create organized zones for conversation, meal preparation and cleaning. I tackled the living room to clear the clutter and design a personal peaceful area. I reevaluated the linens of my life and passed along items that no longer served me. The bathroom accessories got my full attention with the goal to save time and aggravation each morning. I undertook the task to keep the small, compact laundry area clutter-free, efficient and attractive. Each room was tackled, each area pruned.

You can read all about these changes in my ***Room-by-Room Organizing***

http://www.organizingresources.com/words_of_wisdom.htm