

OPEN HOUSE

ORGANIZATION

Everyone is mad about organizing right now. **Editorial Director Joanna Saltz** chats with four designers about finding solutions that actually improve your quality of life (and your mood).

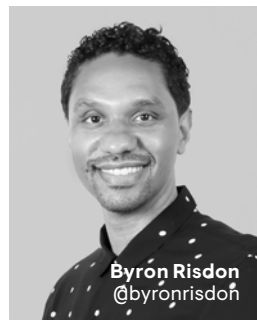


Joanna Saltz
@josaltz

WANT TO TALK?
E-MAIL ME AT EDITOR@HOUSEBEAUTIFUL.COM.



IN A KITCHEN BY BYRON RISDON, A COMBINATION OF SHELVES, CABINETS, AND WINE STORAGE ENSURES EVERYTHING HAS A PLACE.



Byron Risdon
@byronrisdon

Joanna Saltz: I have a theory that in times of chaos, people crave neatness, and that's why we've gotten so into organizing lately. Have you noticed that?

Dee Murphy: Definitely. With more people at home over the past year, we all want to find a place for everything or else it

just keeps adding to the chaos. So whether it's organizing drawers and doing the Marie Kondo edit or structuring spaces with custom storage, it's about making it not feel like an absolute mess. For me, with my kids at home and desks in the dining room, we really needed to just rein it in.

Purvi Padia: When kids aren't out of the house as much, your home is also where they're playing, learning, doing everything, and so there's a lot more stuff.

Jean Stoffer: From a kitchen

perspective, people are using that space more than ever and realizing they need new equipment and tools. So that means organizing all that efficiently for cooking.

Jo: Beyond the kitchen, where else are people organizing?

Purvi: Well, rooms are being used multifunctionally now.



Jean Stoffer
@jeanstofferdesign

MUDROOM:

"Especially in climates that require a lot of outerwear, you need great storage for snowy boots, as well as hats, mittens, and any other gear—we even see people keeping grill equipment in mudrooms. **A combination of open cubbies and closed storage, as in this mudroom I designed with California Closets, makes space for all the stuff.**" —JEAN STOFFER



People want the living room to be an office during the day and a living room at night, but they don't want to spend hours transforming it from one to the other.

Byron Risdon: The same goes for the home office. People are thinking, *How can I keep my guest room but also use it as my office? And have a pretty background!* I've literally had a client ask me to work on just the shelf behind his desk!

Jo: At the end of the day, people want beautiful. How do you make sure your functional storage is still gorgeous?

Jean: With our cabinet line, we've made several interior storage solutions that aren't inexpensive but really do improve your quality of life. People love the angled lid storage racks so they don't just have a stack of lids in a cabinet.

Byron: I'm doing more built-ins than ever. The longer people are in their home, the more they realize how much they have that needs to be stored in a nice way.

Purvi: But if you need it right now, sometimes it's about finding the pretty off-the-rack solutions too.

SALTZ: ALLIE HOLLOWAY; HAIR AND MAKEUP: NINA SORIANO; WARDROBE: STEPHANIE TRICOLA/HONEY ARTISTS; RISDON: KEVANNA BOWEN; STOFFER: JOHN STOFFER; MURPHY INTERIOR: DAVID LAND; PADIA: LESHEM LOFT; PADIA INTERIOR: WILLIAM WALDRON; MURPHY: COURTESY/DEE MURPHY; MURPHY INTERIOR: ZEKE RUELAS.

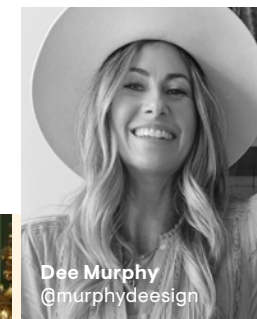
Purvi Padia
@purvipadiainteriors



Jo: So what are the biggest trends you're seeing in organizing right now?

Dee: Closets have always been a big deal, but I feel like now more than ever, people want to up the ante and go ahead and spend that money to really get them done. I built a shoe drawer for my own mudroom and I've had so many clients ask for that now, because no matter what, when we tried to do baskets, stuff ended up tumbling out and looking messy; so they're asking for drawers they can stack shoes in and then close shut.

Byron: I think the idea of purging is sparking a lot of these new projects; people are cleaning



Dee Murphy
@murphydeesign

GUEST ROOM:

"**Make use of every nook and cranny!** This little jewel box in my guest bunk room needed to work as extra storage for me (compartments and a clothing rack) and as a place to both store items and provide a 'drop zone' for guests (drawers and vanity). I worked with **California Closets** to carve out every last inch of space and give each piece a place in this 'not so walk-in' closet." —DEE MURPHY



A DINING ROOM BY PURVI PADIA CAN ALSO SERVE AS AN OFFICE WITH SIDEBOARD STORAGE AND ARTWORK AS A ZOOM BACKGROUND.

and they realize, *I should go ahead and work on this closet, or redo this pantry.*

Jean: Besides the mudroom, we've really seen an increase in the back, or secondary, kitchen.

Purvi: With my clients, I've seen the shift in pantries. People have always wanted them to be functional, but in the past year it's been more about beautiful pantries with everything in glass jars with labels on them.

Jo: It's almost like merchandis-

ing. I do think the connecting point is that it's about making your family's life more livable—whether it's getting dressed in the morning or getting food out of your pantry, it's a kind of self-care.

Byron: **Having an organized space, knowing where things are, and being able to access them—just making that easier for yourself really does impact your quality of life.**

Custom Organizing Solutions for Every Room

There's no one-size-fits-all rule for good organizing; here are valuable tips for different parts of the home.

PANTRY:

"If you're purging anyway, take the time to redo your pantry to make it work better."

—BYRON RISDON

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CALIFORNIA CLOSETS®

LIVING ROOM:

"To create a room that can function in multiple ways, look for pieces that can easily transition—say, a coffee table that has a hidden spot underneath for schoolbooks."

—PURVI PADIA