hallway

Hanging schoolbags on sturdy wall hooks keeps them off the floor and ensures they're returned to the same spot every day. "Just make sure you position hooks at a child-friendly height," says Natalie Morey of The Lifestylers Group.

Put a stylish hamper with a washable cotton insert near the front door; it can then become a dump bin for smelly sports gear that can be moved en masse to the laundry.

Swamped with daily debris?
The right furniture can
give everything a designated
place, says Rachel Zehner of
A Place For Everything. "Hall
tables with drawers are great
when teamed with a decorative
bowl or tray on top for coins and
keys," she says. "Another option is
a console with open shelves and a
basket for each family member for
stashing various items."

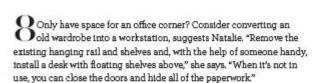
Utilise the space under internal stairs with custom cabinetry. "Enclose the area with doors and add shelves to create a hidden alcove for storing school stuff, wet-weather gear and sports equipment," suggests Sorted Space's Dayna Howard.

A bench seat with boxes or chic storage containers underneath works particularly well in busy households, advises Ikea's Christine Gough. "Locating it by the front door also prevents clutter spreading to the main area of the home," she says.









pairing with a timber, wire or leather-look tray," she says.

If your home office doubles as a craft room, use a vertical file system to colour-code craft papers. Store rolls of gift wrap in a tall wire basket and fix a pegboard to the wall to hang your tools.

10 "Divide and conquer bits and bobs with simple inner-drawer organisers or timber cutlery trays," suggests Rachel Zehner of A Place For Everything. "This will keep items such as scissors, staplers and pens in order and readily accessible at all times."

Look for interesting storage pieces to make your functional items display-worthy. Cool shelves such as the hanging bookcase from Plyroom and the book hanger from Design For Use (see Storage Saviours, above right) are a great way to both store books and present them in an eye-catching way, suggests Karen Akers of Designed by Karen Akers.





