

HOW TO KEEP YOUR CLOSET ORGANIZED



As you admire your new MasterSuite™ by ClosetMaid® closet system, you may be wondering what's the best way to put everything away and keep it in order? Here are our suggestions to speed along completing your project and maintaining the peace:

- Remember to transfer garments from their old hangers to the new ones as you return items to the closet.
- Keep in mind the old adage: *If you can't see it, you won't wear it!*
- Return hanging garments to their new home first. Start with separates, working with one clothing type at a time (e.g. short sleeve shirts or casual vs. formal), from light to dark colors. Depending upon whether you are left or right-handed and whether you prefer your hangers facing left or right, put away one section at a time of clothing from left to right or vice versa.
- If you're having difficulty deciding which type of clothes (e.g. suit jackets) should go in which section of your new closet system, begin with the garments you wear most frequently. Hang your most frequently worn garments in the most accessible section (usually nearest the door), then begin putting away your remaining items in order of what is used less and less frequently, working your way towards the most inaccessible parts of your closet.
- Separate your suits. Women's fashions allow for a wide-array of mixing and matching. Keep tops and bottoms separate so you can see new mix 'n' match possibilities.
- Hang your pants above your shirts. Not only is there more room to store shoes or sweaters on the shelf between upper and lower hanging, but pants don't stick out away from the hangers like blouses, so it's easier to see what's hanging on the bottom rack.
- If you can't slide your hangers back and forth easily on the pole after putting everything away, you have too many items in your closet. Re-examine your choices to see if you should remove any out-of-season garments or less frequently worn clothing so your regular wardrobe can stay organized. If your closet is overstuffed, it will only get disorganized as your wear and then attempt to return items after laundering (when there is no space left to return them).
- Be careful hanging sheddable clothing next to fuzz magnets. Your white angora top may leave lots of hairs all over your black velvet pull-on.
- If your dresses need more room, consider mounting a hook just inside your closet door (or on a free wall) for your bathrobe. Robes are space-eaters and usually worn far more often than many dresses.
- Garments that belong on shelves (or may stretch out-of-shape if hung): sweaters, t-shirts, turtlenecks and other knits, blue jeans, and formalwear made with sequins or other heavy materials.
- Once you have re-hung all your garments in your new closet system, begin putting away the most important shelving items next, starting with the most accessible shelves. If shoes are your big thing, put them away next. If you wear sweaters and turtlenecks frequently, find them a home on the shelves next. Put away the most important items first, the remainder will fill in the empty, available spaces.
- Undoubtedly you and your closet designer decided before installation how and where you would store your shoes. Like your garments, you can organize them by color and type, dressy or casual. Depending upon the quantity of shoes and your personal preferences, you can store them on shelving with toes or heels facing front (or toe to heel). They can be staggered to fit more per shelf. If you must use boxes, ensure they are well-labeled. Most importantly, take care of your good shoes. Use shoe trees to maintain shape; ensure they are regularly polished or conditioned as well as re-heeled. Best of all, shoe cubbies are adjustable to accommodate a wide variety of shapes and sizes.
- Everything needs a home: Ties belong on a tie rack, belts on belt rack, lingerie in a drawer, purses on a shelf, and jewelry belongs in a box or in an organized jewelry drawer.