

Organizer walks the talk

Sally Allen has been creating order out of disorder at homes and home offices since 1997 when she started her business, A Place for Everything.

Step into the kitchen of her Genesee home, and you know at once that she walks the talk. Charming yet uncluttered, the bright room and nearby dining area are filled with items from earlier globetrotting days when her family lived abroad.

Take a peek inside the cabinets, and you'll find that pots, pans, and dishes are neatly and conveniently arranged. Cans, boxes, and spices line the tidy pantry where there's little doubt that any have exceeded their use-by dates. "Every several months people should look at what they have in the pantry and create menus to use it up," Allen

says, adding that the same goes for items in the freezer.

One thing you won't find in her kitchen is a desk. "I'm not a big advocate because it becomes more of a catch-all center," she says. "I've never been in a kitchen yet where the desk has been used efficiently."

Two trends in kitchen design that do get her thumbs up are warming drawers, which come in handy when trying to coordinate a meal, and refrigerator drawers that stow beverages and other items, so there is lots more shelf space in the refrigerator.

Allen's growing business now includes a team of five organizers, each specializing in areas such as home

offices, general residential, relocations, and seniors.

For organizing tips and more information visit sallyallenorganizer.com.

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Sally Allen, professional organizer and owner of A Place for Everything