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Helping You Start the New Year Right

New Years is the time to start fresh. That's why so many of us have made New Year's Resolutions. However, how many of us actually keep them? If you have a hard time maintaining your resolutions, here are some ideas we can offer to help:

- Lose those holiday pounds by converting your basement or attic into a home exercise room
- Lower your stress by transforming your master bath into a relaxing spa
- Catch up on work with a private home office or library
- Motivate yourself to prepare healthy meals by updating your kitchen
- Enjoy more time with your family by creating a family entertainment room you can share

[Contact us today](#) if you would like Diamond Builders of America to help you with any of these projects, or a special project you have in mind.

Organizing your Closets

The closet is a breeding place for clutter. Stuffed with clothes, shoes jumbled on the floor, boxes and bags piled on shelves as high as you can reach...Any of this sound familiar? If so, it's time to organize those unruly closets!

The first step is to purge your closet of the clothes, shoes, bags, etc that you no longer use or need. As you take items out of your closet, sort them into one of three piles: Keep, Donate, and Trash. Be critical when it comes to sorting. If you find something you haven't used in over a year, get rid of it. And if you can't find a good reason to keep something, don't. Donate or Trash it. The general rule for clothing is it must fit, be in style, be comfortable, and not need any repairs. Don't keep an outfit just because you paid a lot for it. If you're not going to wear it, it's only taking up valuable closet space.

Once your closet has been cleaned out, it's time to introduce some systems to keep you organized. These systems will also give you more space and keep your clothes in better condition. The best way to maximize space is to use two rods, one above the other. Much of the space in your closet is wasted because many of your outfits don't fall all the way to the floor. Also, if you have a high ceiling, you can add extra rows of shelves. (This may mean keeping a stepstool in your closet.) Papers, purses, and other items can be stored in plastic bins on these shelves. Use clear bins to save time searching later. Small items, such as socks or

shoes, can be stored in shoe bags that hang from the closet door.

For more advanced organization systems, consider having a custom closet system built. These systems can range from custom tie racks and dressers to motorized carousels that bring your clothes to you with the flick of a switch. You can also add lighting, vanities, and full-size mirrors, benches, and other conveniences that turn your average closet into a luxurious dressing room.

No matter what system you decide to use, the key thing to remember is to maintain your organization systems. Remember to return your clothes to their hangers after washing, your purse to its shelf, and your shoes to their bags. After all that hard work, it would be a shame to have to do it all again so soon!

Home Maintenance Reminder

Switch to Smarter Lighting

Replace incandescent lights with compact fluorescents (CFL). They use at least 2/3 less energy, last up to 10 times longer, and generate 70% less heat.



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