



KonMari for Homestead Families

Here's a list of simple things to do today to begin to apply the downsizing and decluttering principles discussed in our article, "KonMari for Homestead Families." Remember to pick up Marie Kondo's small book, *The Life Changing Magic of Tidying Up* for further inspiration.

To Do KonMari for Homestead Families:

Here's a to-do list for today and this week to implement some of the ideas we've discussed. This is really more of a mental change, but we begin with tangibles. You will start to KonMari your homestead family with yourself first - you're the grownup, so you're used to that.

1. Pray or meditate before you begin so your mind can be clear. This will also help you emotionally detach a bit from your "stuff," if that can be a problem for you.
2. Make notes as to which clutter pile has been flashing into your mind as you've read this. I'll bet there's something that immediately sprang into your thoughts when you read the word de-clutter. Was it clothes or media or knick knacks? If nothing came to mind right away, let's start with clothes.
3. In your [homestead journal](#), write down a day this week to gather all your clothes together in a pile. If you happen to [The Do It Yourself Homestead Journal](#), there's a specific place for this KonMari section in the "Green the Homestead Chapter" part of your *Journal*. For this first experiment with de-cluttering, let's just stick with your personal clothes. You'll work with other areas later this month.
4. Gather boxes, bags and a dark marker for organizing.
5. Make a spot for what will go to charity, what will stay with you, and what you still need to think about.

What To Do With KonMari This Week:

1. On the appointed day, make a pile on your bed of all clothes, scarves, underwear, shoes and ties for every season. Follow the process described in this article - touch it all, ask if it sparks joy or is truly needed and sort it accordingly. You can change your mind at any point.
2. As you sort, organize what you have into either charitable donation, items to keep, or those you're still pondering. Be sure to take breaks, if it ends up taking a while.
3. If letting go of possessions is hard for you, plan a big reward for when you're done. I am deeply motivated by chocolate and reading and will often use them as rewards for when I've accomplished some big goal. Whatever reward you choose, I promise the whole process will feel worth it when you're done.
4. Once your clothes are seen to, schedule a time to move on to your family's wardrobe sometimes this month. Or the barn, or your sewing supplies. The best area to begin KonMari on your homestead is the place that seems to be sucking the life out of you.

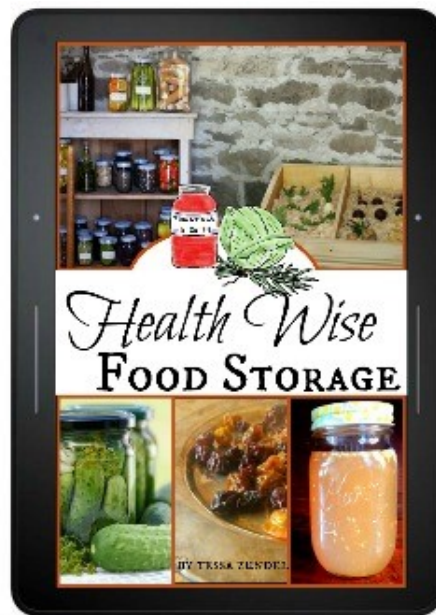
Further Reading on KonMari-Type Ideas for Homestead Families:

If this article sparked some serious thinking, here are some suggestions on what to read next:

- Our book, [The Do It Yourself Homestead](#) - remember to email me for that free sample!
- Angi at Schneider Peeps wrote a great article entitled, "[Does Simple Living Really Matter?](#)" - a thought-provoking read that I recommend.
- Ever heard of gleaning? Connie at Urban Overalls wrote a great article on the topic - [click here](#).
- Both of my green living gurus, [Attainable Sustainable](#) and [Small Footprint Family](#) have fabulous articles on eco-friendly habits and sustainability - check them out by clicking on their names.

For information on homesteading topics, sign up for our newsletter and receive our e-booklet *Health Wise Food Storage*.

You'll also gain access to our member library, which has FREE resources added to frequently throughout the year. Included in your library is the *Green the Homestead* e-booklet (inspired by the green living chapter in our book, *The Do It Yourself Homestead*) we mentioned in our article!



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