

Three signs you have too much stuff

1 You buy things not realising you already have them

Problem: You'd always dreamed about ¹ that book or dress or vase. You order it online, open the package and realise you already own it.

Solution: Stop ² attention to advertisements and new trends. Concentrate on ³ the things you already have.

2 There's nowhere to sit down or eat

Problem: You have chairs, a table and a sofa, but they are full of stuff. 'I can't carry on ⁴ like this,' you say. But you do.

Solution: Before you go to bed, remember ⁵ everything in its place, so every surface has some space on it.

3 You can never find what you're looking for

Problem: This happens with clothes. You have piles of them, but can't find what you want. Eventually you give up ⁶ and just buy something new.

Solution: Go through your clothes. Throw away anything you haven't worn for over 18 months. It might turn out ⁷ the most important thing you do in the house.

1 A owning

B own

C to own

2 A paying

B to pay

C pay

3 A to appreciate

B appreciate

C appreciating

4 A live

B living

C to live

5 A to put

B put

C putting

6 A to look

B looking

C look

7 A being

B be

C to be