How to...



Get organized for school Start the year off strong with these tips and tricks for staying on track.

Set up a

t's a great feeling to begin the school year organized! Having what you need where you can easily find it can make it simpler for you to manage your time and your assignments. Here's how to get started.

Gather supplies

Check your school's website for a list of supplies you need for the year, then add anything else you'd like to have. Before going to a store to buy new items, look around your home to see what you still have from last year. (You may find you have enough pencils, for example, or you can simply remove used pages from a barely used notebook you already own.) After you gather what you have, ask your family for help getting what you still need. Also, be sure to talk to a parent about any forms (like health assessments or activity permission slips) that need to be filled out and signed.

Create a homework station

Another way to prepare for the new school year is to take some time to consider where you will do your homework. Start by thinking about your own learning style. Do you like company while working? If so, your kitchen table could be a good spot. It might be useful to fill a small handled basket with homework supplies (like pencils and index cards) that you can move onto and off the table as needed. If you prefer quiet,

consider your bedroom for homework time. You can set up a small desk or table, use containers like cups or a tray to keep your supplies organized, and add personal items as you wish. If you use a computer or tablet for schoolwork, choose a place to keep it plugged in and charged.

Write down important dates

A planner or calendar is a simple way to stay on top of your schedule, due dates, and appointments. Being

able to see at a glance what you have coming up in the following days or weeks can also help you plan out your time and keep you

from forgetting anything. You can use a paper wall calendar, a notebook planner, or an electronic calendar on a phone or tablet. The best system is the one that works for you!

Prep for each class

workspace. The best way to keep notes and papers organized is to group them by subject in a binder or folder. To do this effectively, create a labeled binder section or folder for every class you're taking, then prioritize putting away papers and assignments in their correct spots throughout the year. Do the same on your computer by using an electronic folder for each subject. When it's time to study for a test or prepare for a project, you'll know exactly where to find what you need.

Steps to streamline weekday mornings

Leaving for school on time doesn't have to be stressful. Here's how you can begin each day smoothly.

Prep for school

the night before Before you go to bed, set yourself up for success the next day. Pack

TO DO LIST

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your bag, lay out your clothes, and get your lunch ready.

Consider a checklist

Put a small

whiteboard by the door and make a checklist of

what you need every day—like your lunch and water bottlethen check them off before you leave the house.

Have a go-to breakfast Taking the quesswork out of what to eat every



morning can save time. On Sunday, prepare one breakfast, like muffins or a big batch of oatmeal, to eat every morning. Switch it up each week!

Make mornings more fun

Having a morning ritualsomething you do every

day-can help motivate you to get out of bed. For example, a ritual might be listening to a special playlist as you get ready for school.

