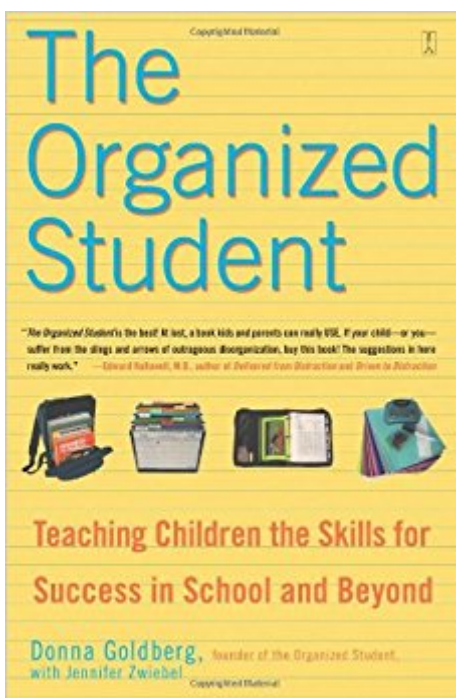


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The Organized Student: Teaching Children The Skills For Success In School And Beyond



Synopsis

A must-read for parents, *The Organized Student* contains hands-on strategies for teaching your disorganized child how to organize for success in middle school and high school, with special tips for kids with ADD/ADHD and learning disorders. The overstuffed backpack, the missing homework, the unused planner, the test he didn't know about. Sound familiar? When the disorganized child meets the departmentalized structure of middle school, everything can fall apart. Even the academically successful child will start to falter if she misses deadlines, loses textbooks, or can't get to class on time. This practical book is full of hands-on strategies for helping parents identify and teach organizational skills. Educational consultant Donna Goldberg has developed these methods by working with hundreds of students and in this book she provides:

- Assessments to gather information about your child's learning style, study habits, and school requirements
- Guidelines for taming that overstuffed binder and keeping it under control
- PACK—a four-step plan for purging and reassembling a backpack or locker
- Instructions for organizing an at-home work space for the child who studies at a desk or the child who studies all over the house
- Ways to help your child graduate from telling time to managing time
- Special tips for kids with learning disabilities and kids who have two homes...and more

The Organized Student is a must for any parent who has heard the words, "I can't find my homework!" •

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

THE ORGANIZED STUDENT is the best! At last a book kids and parents can really USE. If your

child--or you--suffer from the slings and arrows of outrageous disorganization, buy this book! The suggestions in here really work. Edward Hallowell, M.D., author of DELIVERED FROM DISTRACTION "Of all the how-to books I've read, this one gets first prize. I predict that levels of parent-child frustration will drop significantly if they take the lessons to heart." -- Clarice J. Kestenbaum, M.D., professor of clinical psychology, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons "Donna Goldberg has been a pioneer in helping students get organized and achieve more in school." -- Barry J. Izsak, president, National Association of Professional Organizers

"THE ORGANIZED STUDENT is the best! At last a book kids and parents can really USE. If your child--or you--suffer from the slings and arrows of outrageous disorganization, buy this book! The suggestions in here really work." -- Edward Hallowell, M.D., author of DELIVERED FROM DISTRACTION "Donna Goldberg writes with the head of a professional and the heart of a mom. Her tips, tricks, and techniques are extraordinarily sensitive to the time constraints of today's families. Don't keep this book on your bookshelf. Keep it on your nightstand because you'll refer to it again and again." -- Rick Lavoie, author of It's So Much Work to Be Your Friend "Of all the how-to books I've read, this one gets first prize. I predict that levels of parent-child frustration will drop significantly if they take the lessons to heart." -- Clarice J. Kestenbaum, M.D., professor of clinical psychology, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons

I found this book to be extremely easy and enjoyable to read. I read it cover to cover in two days. I am now going back to implement the ideas and find that her steps are easy to follow AND easy to relate to my child. I was loaned this book by my child's school, and I have purchased my own copy so I can refer to it in the future. We are not far in yet, but I believe that this book may be life changing for my child (and maybe for me...and I thought I was organized!) Some of the other reviews said the techniques were too simple and you could find them on the internet. That maybe true. However, this book puts them in one place in a concise simple to follow plan that takes you through ALL of your child's daily structure. It IS simple enough for a child, because it is designed for a child. If it were high brow and esoteric your child would neither understand, embrace or be able to implement the system. Brilliance is often simple. Remember the quote by Robert Heinlein "Progress isn't made by early risers. It's made by lazy men trying to find easier ways to do something."

This book precisely describes the symptoms of my 14 year old son, so now he knows all the problems he has are associated with organization. No need to pay big bucks to get a psychological

evaluation and diagnosis, just spend few bucks to get this book instead.(Son got several evaluations and diagnosis over the years, they were expensive and pretty much useless!)This book is just amazingly precise - "The overstuffed backpack, the missing homework, the unused planner, the test he didn't know about. Sound familiar? When the disorganized child meets the departmentalized structure of middle school, everything can fall apart. Even the academically successful child will start to falter if she misses deadlines, loses textbooks, or can't get to class on time."Very happy to discover this book!

I especially like that that the author describes more than one way to get organized, and the methods are not complicated. I've observed that schools (& parents) tend to attack lack of organization with even more folders, binders, etc., as if adding to the quantity will somehow reduce chaos.The initial thing I was looking for was advice on a workable planner for my middle school son. The author recommends one that has 2 pages for all 7 days of the week, and lists subjects down the side, so that the student can easily see patterns in assignments as well as a weekly view. The author writes over a teacher planner, as the proper layout is impossible to find. I ended up using this model to create one of our own using a page layout program (MS Word) & getting it wirebound at an office supply store (\$6).The author describes a simple yet very effective way to set up a ring binder system for keeping & filing papers & notes. However, ring binders can be awkward for some students: left-handers, those who must cope with small desks in class, or those who find binders hard to work with in general. The alternative system involves a portfolio with divided pockets to hold papers by subject; these are later filed into a binder or tote box at home. Either way, the student must "own" his system in order to make it work.There are other very valuable chapters on organizing lockers, desks at home, and filing old papers.This book is an extremely valuable resource for parents and students, and I discovered it just in time.Update, 11/8/11: My now high school senior son has been using his planner & filing system every year with great success. He gets a new planner every semester for class changes & to make it a bit thinner. Even though he now takes a laptop to school for note taking & monthly calendar, the paper planner is still invaluable for schoolwork. It is faster to access, never runs out of power, & will never crash. I expect he will take a version of his planner to college.This book is something every parent needs for helping children develop & maintain workable organization skills.

I am a teacher working with executive function issues. I really like the ideas and already use a lot of them. I am always on the look out for books for my parent library and thought this might help and

will include it in the library, however, it is a bit wordy and difficult to focus on.

I gave this book to my rising sixth grader to read. He was very interested! He made a list of strategies and tools based on what he thought would help him succeed in middle school. He has never made a planning list like that before! We bought hanging files and his own hole punch and set up a study area just for him. The only drawback is that he thought it was better for high school students, because in middle school, the school and teachers still require their own preferred strategies, such as an agenda or certain types of notebooks, instead of the student being able to use what he prefers.

I got this for a friend who's daughter just started High School and it helped more than anyone can imagine. Life is more fast paced than ever before and kids in school feel the pressure as well. This book has more solutions than a room full of parents. It is completely accurate and has helped this freshman learn how to be better organized in our high paced, complex high schools that seem to reflect the chaotic world we all live in. I give this book a 10+++++ rating and it is a must for every parent who wants to start helping their kids get organized well before college. I wish this book was around before I went to college 20 years ago. I am sending this book to my sister-in-law for my nephew who is 10 yrs old. Its never to late to start, in fact its a great book for adults as well..you can teach an old dog new tricks.

I am reading this book specifically to study for my certification as a Professional Organizer. It is well-written and informative for our profession as well as parents. As a former teacher I appreciate the challenges that all students, especially those struggling with staying organized, face. The author provides practical strategies and tips as well as hope.

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