

Do's and Don'ts to De-clutter Your Table Linens

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The day you're hosting the big dinner is *not* the day to try to find eight matching napkins and the tablecloth that fits the table after the leaf has been inserted. And how many runners, placemats and napkins do you need anyway? Here are the simple answers to de-clutter your table linens before your next dinner party!

Keep:

- ✓ 1 Formal Tablecloth
- ✓ 12 Formal Napkins
- ✓ 1 Casual Tablecloth
- ✓ 12 Casual Napkins
- ✓ 12 Placemats
- ✓ 18 Cocktail Napkins
- ✓ 1 Table Liner

Toss:

- Hopelessly stained
- Sizes of tables no longer own
- Styles that you won't use

Re-Use Plastic/Vinyl:

- Keep car trunk clean, line to catch soil, sand, spills
- Prevent picnic blanket from getting damp, use one under picnic blanket to keep it clean
- For easy garage sale pricing, place items on different colors and make a sign X color = X price

Craft a Family Heirloom

Using fabric pens have family and friends write messages or trace their hands on the tablecloth. Use it year after year for special occasions adding new messages over time.



Store Crease/Wrinkle Free

DO use a pants hanger to hang tablecloth or runner in the guest or hall closet.

DON'T hang on a wire hanger, this can make rust marks and will crease. Add the tube from a roll of paper towels to hang over.

DON'T forget to label the hanger with the table it fits or label the cloth by adding a clothespin.

DO roll napkins around a paper towel tube to keep crease free.

DON'T keep holiday specific linens out year round. Save space by storing them with other holiday related items.

DO store vinyl or plastic party tablecloths in the box with other party supplies.

DON'T store antique linens in a hot or damp space.

DO wrap antique linens in acid free tissue paper to prevent yellowing.

DO store commonly used linens where you use them like napkins rolled in a basket on the dining table.