



Say Yes To Mess (?) January '07

Minus the question mark, this was the title of an article in the New York Times Home & Garden Section on Dec 21st 2006. A good friend sent me the link <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/12/21/garden/21mess.html> and a number of people have mentioned the article to me.

It quotes David Freedman, who with co-author Eric Abrahamson has written "A Perfect Mess: The Hidden Benefits of Disorder" which should be available now. I will read it with interest as my own stance seems to be neither with the "clutter busters buy containers group" nor with these authors.

To me the bottom line is whether or not your space is helping you be and do what you want. If you are happy in your space, and your household can deal, AND the fire department can get to you if need be, then super! Let it be! No matter what it looks like.

It all depends on what YOU need. I'm very visual - happier if things look beautiful to me. I like looking at the spaces I occupy, somehow cherishing what I see. When things get too cluttered I can't think.

On the other hand- my husband is very content in his study where he effectively works at his computer, watches TV, or meditates, happily surrounded by what I consider clutter. Like the folks mentioned in the article - he can find what he wants and is creative amidst the chaos. More power to him.

I agree that if you work well in a mess- you should say YES to it and carry onward! There are tons more important things in the world that need attention.

And even if you need more order to function well - don't run out to buy containers before you sort the stuff out and find out what truly is deserving of a home in your space.

For the year of 2007 if you can SAY YES TO MESS by all means do.

If you need a different look and feel to your space say yes to that!