

WORK CLOTHES  
FOR UNDER \$100

# REAL SIMPLE

| LIFE MADE EASIER |

THIS  
MONTH'S  
ORGANIZING  
MAKEOVER

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## BACK-TO- BASICS BEAUTY

EASY  
STEPS TO  
LOOKING  
GREAT

+

THE BEST  
BEAUTY  
BUYS FOR \$3  
AND UP

WEEKNIGHT  
PASTA  
7 NEW WAYS

*plus*  
THE 5  
CRUCIAL  
QUESTIONS  
TO ASK  
YOUR  
AGING  
PARENTS



**(LOW) MAINTENANCE**

**wool sweaters**

It's about time to store wintry knits for the season. Here's your pestproof plan.

**wash gently**

"Clean sweaters before storage, because moths, carpet beetles, and silverfish feed off sweat and stains," says Brian Johnson, the director of education and analysis at the Drycleaning and Laundry Institute, in Laurel, Maryland. Dry cleaning works well but can get pricey. In most cases, it's safe to hand wash wool (including blends), but let the care label be your guide. Add 2 squirts of a delicates wash, like Wool & Cashmere Shampoo (\$19 for 16 ounces, thelaundress.com), to a sinkful of tepid water. Turn the garment inside out; submerge, swish, then soak for 10 minutes. Rinse twice, pressing out the water. Never wring or hang-dry, since wet wool stretches easily.

**dry flat**

Lay the garment on a clean towel and roll it up like a jelly roll to extract water. Unfurl and let dry on a new towel or a mesh rack. Reshape, or "block," the knit. You can adjust the fit slightly bigger or smaller, and as the garment dries it will set in place.

**depill**

Shave off fuzz balls with the Gleener (\$20, gleener.com), a fabric-safe device with different blades for heavy, medium, and fine knits.

**stash safely**

Creepie crawlies can worm their way through cracks in a cedar chest; also, cedar's effectiveness wears off. Instead, fold knits and

place them in an airtight plastic bin, says Michelle A. Lee, the country manager for the American division of the Woolmark Company. Finally, throw in a sachet filled with ½ cup dry lavender (bugs hate the stuff) and store in a cool, dry place.

—Kaitlyn Pirie



**LITTLE HELPERS**

4 ways to make your day easier.



**IPOD CABLE**

Never lose your cord again. In a bright pattern, this one won't disappear into that black (or white) hole. **TO BUY:** \$18, easterncollective.com for similar styles.



**COLLAPSIBLE CARRY-ON**

Stowing bulky luggage is a pain. This bag fits neatly in an overhead compartment, then folds down for a layover under the bed. **TO BUY:** \$219, biaggi.com.



**INSTAGRAM MAGNETS**

Miss snapshots on the fridge? Here's a site that turns images into two-inch-square magnets. **TO BUY:** \$15 for nine, stickygram.com.



**TECH SUPPORT: TYPE N WALK**

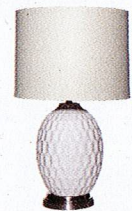
How many times have you collided with a stranger or nearly face-planted over a fire hydrant because your eyes were glued to your phone? Get your bearings back with this clever app. It uses an iPhone's camera to display an image of whatever is in front of you (dogs, trees, pedestrians) while you're e-mailing, texting, tweeting, or posting on Facebook. Just don't use it while driving—seriously. \$1, iTunes.



**BUY AND DOWNLOAD** this app from iTunes by scanning this icon.

**skip it pre-exercise stretching**

Shorten your workout (*woo-hoo!*) and save your knees. "Stretching before running or strength-training can actually make joints more unstable," says Robert Reames, a Gold's Gym Fitness Institute member and a personal trainer in Los Angeles. Stretching *afterward* is what's important. It soothes the body and helps in recovery.



**CORDLESS LAMP**

This beauty is rechargeable, so you can illuminate any spot in your home without unsightly wires. **TO BUY:** \$300, modernlantern.com.