

MY BACK TO SCHOOL PLAN

EXTREME

Organization | By McKenna Dunbar



McKenna Dunbar

Summer is a time to have fun, relax and unwind, but I think it is also a good idea to prepare for the upcoming school year. By taking a little time throughout the summer break to review my academic subjects for the upcoming school year, I have become a better student, ready to participate in the classroom. With minimal effort, I have reaped maximal benefits.

For me, the last weeks of August is one of my favorite times of the summer. At that time, I am excited about returning to school to meet with old friends and possibly make new friends. Nothing says to me more clearly that the new school year is near than going into stores that have advertisements of sale prices on school supplies splashed everywhere. That is when I stock up on those supplies to get organized for the school year.

My school haul consists of colorful pens, bright highlighters, notebooks, binders and a new book bag, as well. I have purchased the highlighters and pens to jot down notes during my classes, to make study cards for reading assignments and to capture the new information I must learn. With my new school supply bounty, I have organized my notebooks and binders in advance to keep my schoolwork neat and tidy. My binders and notebooks are color-coordinated by subject (mathematics, Spanish, etc.) to prevent any mix-ups when I need to grab my notebooks and binders hurriedly from my locker when I am between classes.

As a self-professed “extreme organizer,” I have found that notebook dividers are great organizational tools. I placed them in all of my new colored-coordinated binders to make everything easily accessible, from classroom notes to homework assignments to completed tests and other information. I also put a clear sheet protector/pocket holder at the front of each of my binders, to hold a one- or two-page study guide, a syllabus or a couple of notecards. The sheet protectors are really cool, because they do not take up much space, are accessible and make it simple to study condensed information quickly before taking a pop quiz or test. I also use clear tab stickers, to highlight and help me locate important information in my textbooks and notes, and I double-check my school supply list so I can hit the ground running on the first day of school.

Now, armed with a positive, “can-do” attitude at the start of the new school year, I am eager and ready to learn new things. I hope you are, too! ■

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