

# L.A. Parent™

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APR 2009  
VALLEY EDITION

30 Years and **GROWING!**

An  
**Earth Day  
Birthday**  
**10** Party Tips

**Four L.A. Strolls  
For Spring**

**A Day In  
The Life of  
Autism**

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**Q** In my kitchen I have several different sized pans, all of which I use, stored in one cabinet. These include everything from 8-inch square cake pans to 10-inch round pans with removable bottoms, from muffin tins to popover pans, large pans for sheet cake to smaller bundt pans. I have to take them all out to get to the ones I need. And in the heat of the moment, I don't usually put the pans back neatly. Is there any way to store these neatly and conveniently?

**A** Depending on your cabinet space, there are different ways to solve the problem and make getting to them and putting them away much simpler.

Tall narrow cabinet space is great for housing muffin tins, square pans, popover pans and large pans for sheet cakes vertically. Then you can easily see what you have and retrieve what you need. You can either have slots built in to store each piece in a compartment or purchase a bakeware organizer (available for \$7.79 at [organize.com](http://organize.com)). If you don't have a tall narrow cabinet, see if you can raise a shelf in one of your regular cabinets high enough to hold pans this way.

Also consider installing pull-out shelving, which will make accessing your bakeware easier. A deep drawer can be used in the same way if you are able to divide the space into individual compartments for each piece you plan on storing there. Again, either build in the slots or place your bakeware organizer inside the drawer.

For small, round cake pans and bundt pans, think horizontal. You can buy modular shelves in a variety of shapes and sizes (around \$5-\$20 at [www.containerstore.com](http://www.containerstore.com)) to divide the cabinet space and hold one or two items on each shelf. Keeping them separate this way will help you avoid stacking all your items on top of each other.



Jodie Watson is the Founder and President of Supreme Organization ([www.SupremeOrganization.com](http://www.SupremeOrganization.com)), vice president of the Los Angeles chapter of the National Association of Professional Organizers, and the organizational expert on Real Simple. Real Life., a lifestyle makeover show for women on the TLC Network. Send your questions for Jodie through the "Ask the Columnists" link at [LAParent.com](http://LAParent.com).

## Green Is the Best Revenge

Somewhere between "geek-o" products that are green but dorky, and "chic-o" products more devoted to cool than to their cause, you'll find Revenge Is ... ([www.revengeis.com](http://www.revengeis.com)). This L.A. company's eco products just plain work.

Their T-shirts (\$38), for instance, are available in grey or black made from recycled plastic bottles blended with organic cotton. They look and fit great and are among the most comfortable shirts I've ever worn. And it doesn't hurt that they are printed with timely slogans like "Revenge Is ... Energy Independence."

The Tuck-Away Reusable Bag (\$10.95) also used to be a plastic bottle, and says so. It's big enough to hold at least two plastic grocery bags' worth of stuff, but folds down to just 2"x4". It easily clips to a purse or belt loop, so you're never caught shopping without it.

But my hands-down fave is the Hybrid Mug (\$18.95). It holds 14-ounces of your favorite hot or cold drink, and maintains the temperature for hours. The sleek stainless steel cups are spill proof, fit into your car's drink holder, and come with a mesh tea strainer so you can make your

favorite brew right in the cup.

On top of it all, the company donates 10% of profits to charitable causes dedicated to helping shift our society in a more environmentally responsible direction.

— Christina Elston



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