

# Step 3: Purchasing Containers

It's time for the fun part—purchasing containers to create an organized system.

Before we begin, let's talk about one of the biggest misconceptions about organization, which is that using containers leaves you with less usable space. The reality is that containers actually help create more space. They provide a home for your items and help determine what you actually use and need. Once you begin putting your items back in place, you'll be surprised by how much space you're able to create.



## Organizational Containers

Organizational containers can be anything from bins, baskets, and bags to shelves that keep items in a designated space. There are a variety of storage options available, and something to fit every budget. When selecting containers, choose one style and stick to it. Part of creating an organized system is having consistency throughout your RV.

Each area requires a different size and type of container. This is where your measurements come into play. It's also important to think about how you'll use each container. If you plan to take it in and out of its space, you may want to look for something with handles. If you have a variety of items to fit in a larger space, a system with drawers may work best. There are thousands of containers to choose from. The key is to dial in its function, size, and your budget.



**With the right types and system, organizational containers actually create more space.**

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To help you navigate choosing the right containers, here are some examples for each area of your RV, including the living space, kitchen, bathroom, closets, and cabinets.

These examples will help get you started, but ultimately, you'll need to take your own measurements and choose containers that work best for you.



## Living Space

Your living space is the area of your RV that's the most open. You may find that baskets and larger bins work best in this area since they can hold more items and offer enough space for maneuverability. These containers will most likely hold shoes, outdoor items, extra blankets, etc.

### **Product ideas:**



[Basket - Walmart.com](#)



[Rope basket - Target.com](#)



[Soft bin - Bedbathandbeyond.com](#)

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## I Kitchen

You'll likely use a variation of storage containers in the kitchen area. Your cabinets will need a different type of organizational system than your fridge or pantry. The key thing to remember in this space is to create a system that is functional and easy to navigate, even for visitors.

Here are some thought-starters for each area in your RV.

**Fridge:** Take food items out of their packaging and place them in containers to make organizing easier. Packaging takes up unnecessary space, and if you use clear containers, you can easily see what you have on hand and what you're running low on. Acrylic bins—either open or with lids—are great options for this area. You can also save space and create a tidy look by putting dressings, condiments, and other liquids in the same type of bottle.



### Product ideas:



[Dressing bottle - amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/OXO-Good-Grips-Chef-s-Squeeze-Bottle/dp/B000068114)  
[OXO Good Grips Chef's Squeeze Bottle](https://www.amazon.com/OXO-Good-Grips-Chef-s-Squeeze-Bottle/dp/B000068114)



[idesignlivesimply.com](http://idesignlivesimply.com)  
[offers great fridge organization options](http://idesignlivesimply.com)

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**Cabinets:** Try to maximize the amount of usable space in this area as much as you can. Since cabinets typically don't have shelving, you can create your own by using wire racks to add an additional layer of storage. If you tend to stack items like plates and cups, place them in open containers to give them a proper home.



## Product ideas:



Smart Design Cabinet Storage Shelf - amazon.com



iDesign Linus Stacking Organizer Bins - amazon.com



**Get creative with how you use containers, and maximize the space you have available to use.**

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**Pantry:** A pull-out pantry is a great place to contain bulk items. To save on space and create a more organized look, take items out of their packaging and put them into airtight containers. Use your measurements to determine which size containers you'll need. If you have a rack system, you can also use resealable bags to help save on space.



## Product ideas:



[OXO Good Grips 3-PC Small Square Short POP Container Set - amazon.com](#)



[Mason Jar Ziplock bags - amazon.com](#)

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**Drawers:** You can easily organize kitchen drawers with drawer systems. Measurements are important here as not all drawer systems will work with your RV setup.



## **Product ideas:**



The Everything Drawer Organizer - The Container Store

### **Togo Tip**

**Drawers tend to be areas where things can pile up. Contain your items and avoid stacking things too high in each container to avoid clutter. You should be able to easily see and access all items.**



Not all drawers will need a container. These pans fit perfectly in the space, and since they're all the same color, it looks neat and organized. Allow yourself to get creative with your space and how you use it.

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## I Bathroom

Bathrooms are usually small spaces that need to contain a variety of different items. You'll most likely use a lot of smaller containers in the bathroom area. Containers with lids are helpful for safely storing toiletries when your RV is in motion.



### **Product ideas:**



AOZITA 2 Pack Qtip  
Holder Dispenser -  
[amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)



mDesign Modern Plastic Open  
Front Dip Storage Organizer -  
[mdesignhomedecor.com](https://www.mdesignhomedecor.com)

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## I Bedroom/Closet

Your bedroom and closet areas house your clothes, which tend to be bulky. The key is to use larger containers but remember that these items are regularly taken in and out, so you'll need to leave enough space around the containers.

If you have a hanging area in your closet, purchase velvet hangers since they take up less space. Larger, open containers work best for areas with folded clothes. Most people stack shirts or pants without giving them a proper home, but if you want a more organized space, it's important to create organizational systems in all areas.



### **Product ideas:**



Plastic Storage Bins, White Container for Shelves - [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)



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Once you have your organizational systems in place, it's time to decide whether to label your containers—this is a personal preference. For many people, a written description helps hold them accountable, while others prefer to keep things simple. Two people living in the same space can choose different approaches, and that's completely fine. The important thing here is that everyone agrees about how to organize and use the common areas..



One side has containers and labels and the other side doesn't. They're both organized in their own way.

**Togo  
Tip**

**Labels can help hold you accountable and remind you of where an item goes, but they're not necessary for everyone.**