

## Get Organized: Enjoy a Toy-Free Tub

PHOTOGRAPH BY WENDELL T. WEBBER; STYLING BY JEN EVERETT



**Toy Story** Create a rotating system for all the motorboats, dancing dolphins and other aquatic toys that clog your tub.

- Assign your kids one storage bin each and have them pick out four favorite toys to keep in it. Store the rest out of sight.
- Every other month, switch the toys in the bin with the stored bath toys. Forgotten playthings will suddenly seem new again, and your bathroom will no longer feel like an aquarium.

If you're drowning in rubber duckies, it's time to drain the clutter from the tub. With organizer Ann Sullivan's ASAP system and a matching set of colorful caddies and storage bins, you'll clean up in no time.

### Assess

Remove everything from the bathtub. Put all items that are used on a daily basis into a large plastic container. Place toys in another container and everything else, like decorative soaps, in another. Give the tub a good scrub.

### Sort

Relocate the items that you don't use every day out of sight under the sink. Then separate the bath products by the person who uses them: the baby shampoo and fish-shaped sponge in one pile; your loofah and deep conditioner in another; your husband's shaving cream in a third. Toss any broken toys and ones your children have outgrown.

### Activate

Put each person's supplies into an individual waterproof bath tote (available at [www.thecontainerstore.com](http://www.thecontainerstore.com)). "Kids will love that they have their very own tote each time they bathe," says Sullivan. Hang a mesh bag in the tub and put one toy per child inside. Place the rest of the toys in individual storage bins (see "Toy Story," left).

### Preserve

To keep the bathroom spic-and-span, put bath products back in the tote after use. Store the tote on a shelf in the bathroom or the linen closet. Do a mini sort monthly, rotating seasonal items such as sunscreen and purging the room of expired items and things you don't need, like yesterday's newspaper. —*Edited by Teresa Palagano*