



MAISON HAVEN

LUXE ORGANIZERS



# Stay home with HAVEN

HOME CLASSROOM  
- DAY ONE -

## CHOOSE A SPOT

Sounds obvious, right? But when you've been thrust into homeschooling, knowing where to start can feel overwhelming.

*Do. Not. Stress.*



## TODAY'S CHALLENGE

Find the best location to boost focus and minimize distractions.

Easy-peasy when you follow our Dos & Don'ts...

- DO** consider your child's work style. There's no point setting up a workspace at the other end of the house for a child that needs constant encouragement. And an independent sort won't appreciate you hovering over them at the kitchen table. Pro tip: if you're opting for their bedroom, ensure any toys or clutter are out of sight!
- DON'T** skimp on lighting. If they're in an area that lacks natural light like a basement (hey, we're not judging), make sure you add a desk lamp.

- DO** choose the chair wisely. You're aiming for a seat that's comfortable enough to sit in for extended periods, but not so comfy they fall asleep (or is that just our kids?!)
- DON'T** stash school supplies out of reach. Your kids should have everything they need within arm's reach. Not only does it foster independence, it minimizes interruptions (win win for mama).
- DO** ensure the workspace is near an outlet to reduce endless wails of 'Moooooom, my computer just died'. Make sure it's near the WIFI router, too. Patchy internet = game over.
- DON'T** panic. If you don't have much space, get creative. All you really need is a flat surface, a few supplies and a computer. Over the next few days we'll be giving advice on temporary storage that works in any part of the home, so stay tuned.



Because even the most hardcore mamas need a break (this is a judgement-free zone, remember?)

For younger kids:  
**ABCmouse**

For book lovers:  
**Epic**

For crafty-types:  
**All Kids Network**

For science buffs:  
**Mystery Science**

For animal lovers:  
**San Diego Zoo**

For mindful minis:  
**Other Goose**



- ZONE OUT -



**WORK**

This is where the business happens (even if the 'business' is just scribbling on a page!) Think pen, paper, pencils, computer. No frills, please. It's all about minimizing distractions. Keep a dedicated Work Box nearby containing limited supplies. This way your child has everything they need, minus the clutter.

*Stay home with*  
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HOME CLASSROOM  
 - DAY TWO -

**READING**

Wouldn't you rather read a book in a comfy spot? Switch it up by creating a reading nook in your house. This could be as simple as a basket of books by the sofa, or a beanbag by the bookshelf. Rope the kids into clearing up the at the end of the day by color-coding the books. Even the smallest kid can return the blue book to the blue zone!



**CRAFT**

It's worth creating a distinct area for craft, not least because it's a way to contain mess! We love to make a visual statement when it comes to craft zones. Group items together by function, then decant pretty supplies into acrylic jars. If you're using containers, add inserts to prevent everything rolling around. Finally, label! Labeling is a great way to ensure the system doesn't fall apart.

And there you have it: three zones that help break up the school day.

*Gold star!*


Now that you've picked your perfect classroom spot, it's time to organize the set up. Today we're talking work stations. Variety is the spice of life and the same goes for your kid's classroom. You wouldn't expect them to sit in one space for hours at a time, right? So a quick win is to break the classroom out into zones, even if this means shifting from one side of the kitchen table to the other!

*Let's talk zones...*




*Get crafty*


Our roundup of the cutest supplies for little (and big!) artists



Rainbow craft kit, \$19.99



DIY embroidery kit, \$55



Space coloring poster, \$10



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HOME CLASSROOM  
- DAY THREE -

*Happy hump day!*

You're at the halfway mark so take a moment to give yourself a pat on the back! Now that your child's workspace is on its way to being organized, it's time to set up the ideal desk. The goal here is to minimize distractions and focus their minds, which means a streamlined surface.

Here's how to achieve it!



1

## LOOP THEM IN

We always say the best way to invest a child, is to involve them. Let them assist in setting up their zone (but be clear that clutter isn't welcome). Some kids love to color-code their supplies, others prefer to organize by type. If you figure out the system together, it's more likely to last.

2

## STREAMLINE THE SURFACE

Two words: classroom caddy. We use these caddies all the time to stash kids' grab-and-go school supplies. Add inserts to customize and you have a portable classroom. Divide supplies into colored pencils/crayons, writing pens/pencils and other tools like scissors, ruler and tape. If you're doubling up on workspace (i.e. using a kitchen table), a caddy is a great solution. At the end of their school day throw everything into it and store in a cupboard ready for tomorrow. Pro tip: personalize it! Kids love anything with their name on it.

3

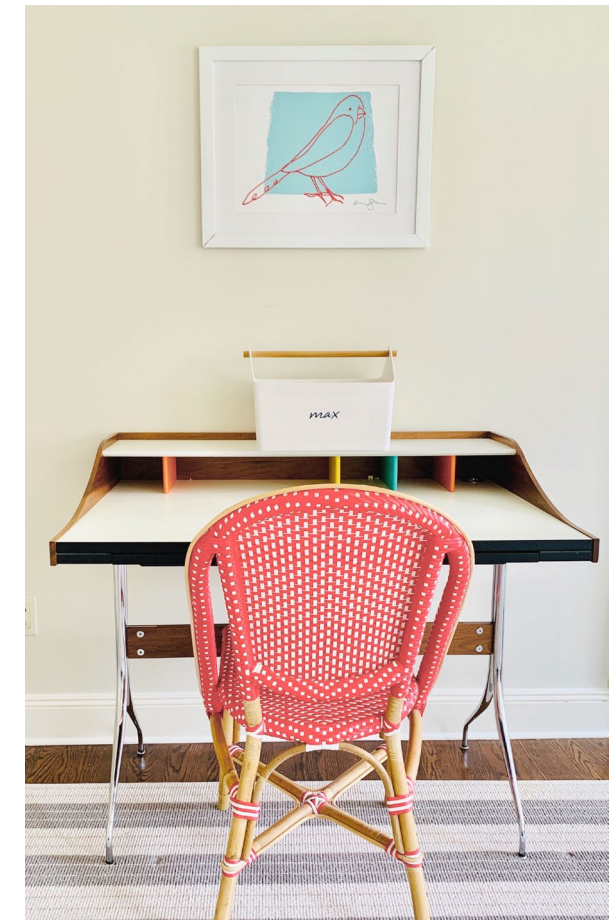
## DESIGN THE DRAWERS

Got desk drawers? Don't overlook this prime storage space. Add acrylic inserts to customize them (be sure to measure the height of each drawer; top ones are usually shallower). Dedicate a drawer per function: extra writing supplies, paper, tech etc. If you have a label maker, be sure to label each drawer. That way, they're more likely to stick to the system.

4

## ADD A TRAY

We're minimizing clutter, right? So that means anything extra like water, snack, timer etc, needs to live on this tray. It stops items mushrooming out and taking over the desk. If it doesn't fit neatly on the tray, it doesn't get to stay!



*Voila - a distraction-free desk!*

By now your child's workspace should be feeling calmer and more intentional.

*The ultimate desk tidy (for less!)*

Our personalized caddies are available to buy! Choose between fuschia, navy and black lettering.

They cost \$55 and for every caddy sold, we'll donate 20% to the **Good + Foundation**.

Email [jennifer@maisonhaven.com](mailto:jennifer@maisonhaven.com) to place your order.

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HOME CLASSROOM  
- DAY FOUR -

PAPER PURGE

Hopefully your home classroom is feeling a whole lot calmer!  
An efficient layout + the ideal spot + an organized desk = win win

Now it's time to tackle the paper clutter!

*Ready? Here we go!*



- SCHOOLWORK -

Whether it's worksheets, journals or reading books, we recommend separating schoolwork into three containers and labeling them like this:

*Start me*  
(new work to do)

*Finish me*  
(work in progress)

*All done*  
(to return to school or file away)

What to do with the 'all done' pile when you're homeschooling? Keep a large **archive folder** accessible and store any completed work here. At the end of the school year, sift through and weed out anything that can be trashed. For precious items that make the grade, archive them in these **white boxes**. Then tie them with string and add a label with your child's name and school year.

*Simple and chic!*

- ART -

Parents tend to fall into two camps: those who want to hang onto the originals, and those who don't. For the former, we suggest a similar system to the schoolwork above (archive folder plus white box solution). If you're happy to let go of the hard copy, we love Artkive, a company that transforms your child's art into a book.

Bye bye paper clutter. Feeling better?

*Amen to that!*

*Chic labels for less*

Want to kickstart your classroom transformation? Check out our Classroom Label Kit. Five labels - 'start me', 'finish me', 'all done', 'projects', 'supplies' - in our signature Maison Haven font.

And, as a thank you for being a Stay Home With Haven subscriber, we're offering you 15% off! Email [jennifer@maisonhaven.com](mailto:jennifer@maisonhaven.com) to place your order.

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HOME CLASSROOM  
 - DAY FIVE -

So, you've decluttered your kid's desk, tamed their paperwork and streamlined their space. The final challenge? Overhaul their schedule. No matter what age your child, one thing's for certain: at school, they don't sit still at a desk for hours on end. So don't try this at home, folks.

*Instead, try these...*



- SMARTEN THE SCHEDULE -

PLAN IT

Managing multiple kids' workloads can be tough (and don't get us started on the Zoom schedules...!) Hit the school day running by sketching out their schedules the night before. Plan on harder topics in the morning when they're feeling brighter. And remember, what works for one family, won't work for another. Be gentle with yourself as you find your rhythm.

SET A TIMER

If your children are old enough to grasp periods of time, great. If not, then telling them they have to read for 30 minutes won't cut it. Thirty minutes is grey space. Kids need black and white. We love this **timer** because it's so visual. And don't just set it for work, set it for breaks, too. That way when fun time is over, you can blame it on the timer (you'd be surprised how effective this is!)

BUILD IN BREAKS

If your child pushes to do the whole day's work in one sitting, resist. Kids can only focus for so long. Plan on a five-minute brain break here, or a 20-minute movement break there (preferably outside in the fresh air). And write breaks into the schedule. In pen. Pro tip: put together a healthy snack box and leave it on their desk. Explain the box contains their daily snack allowance and it's up to them when they eat it. Not only will this encourage independence, it will stop them yelling out for you every five seconds.

ADD CHORES

Yup, if they're not already helping out around the house, now's the time to start. Write down all the household chores and go through it with your kids, letting them pick. Stick the rota somewhere visible so everyone is accountable. And when your kids do their share? Be lavish with praise (and stickers). Catch them being good!

CREATE RITUALS

Building in mindful moments will help structure your child's day. It could be as simple as a morning song or 'waking up' the iPad. We love to kick the day off with a family meditation to calm busy minds. Try this beautiful **meditation** by one of our favorite teachers, Jackie Stewart. Then, at the end of each day, ask them to wipe down their desk area and computer screen. A final note? Be kind to yourself, and to your kids. We are living through an extraordinary time. Some days you'll win, some days you'll lose. It's all part of the rollercoaster.

*Just remember, we're all riding it together.*



*Freebie time!*

To help lighten your load, we've created a free Classroom Printables Pack. The pack includes a daily schedule, a gratitude list and a weekly chore chart. Use them freely and liberally to punctuate your child's day! Click on the right to download



**Chore Chart**



**Daily Schedule**



**Gratitude List**