

Star-Telegram

'House of Havoc' tells how to break through to-do list clutter

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On the shelf

Trapped in an endless cycle of to-do lists, out-of-control clutter and outdated rooms in desperate need of makeovers, syndicated home columnist Marni Jameson gave herself a mandate. She would live more simply, in a prettier, greener home and with less stress and more joy.

Her new book, *House of Havoc* (Da Capo Press, \$16.95), is the tale of how she achieved those goals -- in spite of sloppy kids, muddy dogs and an "unstylish" spouse.

The book includes more than 100 sanity-saving tips, including:

- Go with what you have. Changing paint is cheaper than replacing the sofa or carpet.
- Ordain areas of clutter. Allow yourself a messy drawer, one chair to toss clothes on, a corner of your office that gets out of hand. But that's all.

Part memoir, part humor and part home-improvement guide, *House of Havoc* offers practical, stress-free tips on creating great design, living green and organizing your home -- all on a budget.

-- Korky Vann, Hartford Courant

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