



THE LITTLE THINGS MADE EASY

25 Simple Ways to Make Mom Life Easier + Childhood Sweeter

BECAUSE MAKING THINGS SPECIAL
SHOULDN'T MEAN MAKING MORE WORK
FOR YOURSELF.

Hi, Mom. You already have enough to do.

Pack the lunches.

Find the missing shoe.

Sign the form.

Remember that tomorrow is *apparently* Crazy Sock Day.

Figure out what everyone is eating for dinner.

Keep the kids entertained while you wait 45 minutes for a table.

And somewhere in between all of that, you'd also really love to be the mom who slips a sweet note into the lunchbox, creates fun family traditions, keeps the house somewhat organized, and makes ordinary childhood moments feel special.

That's a lot.

Here's the good news:

Making life easier and making childhood special don't have to be opposites.

You don't need an elaborate system.

You don't need a Pinterest-worthy craft closet.

And you definitely don't need to spend two hours in Canva making something you could have downloaded in two minutes.

Sometimes you just need a shortcut.

So I put together 25 of them for you.

Pick one that would make today easier and start there.

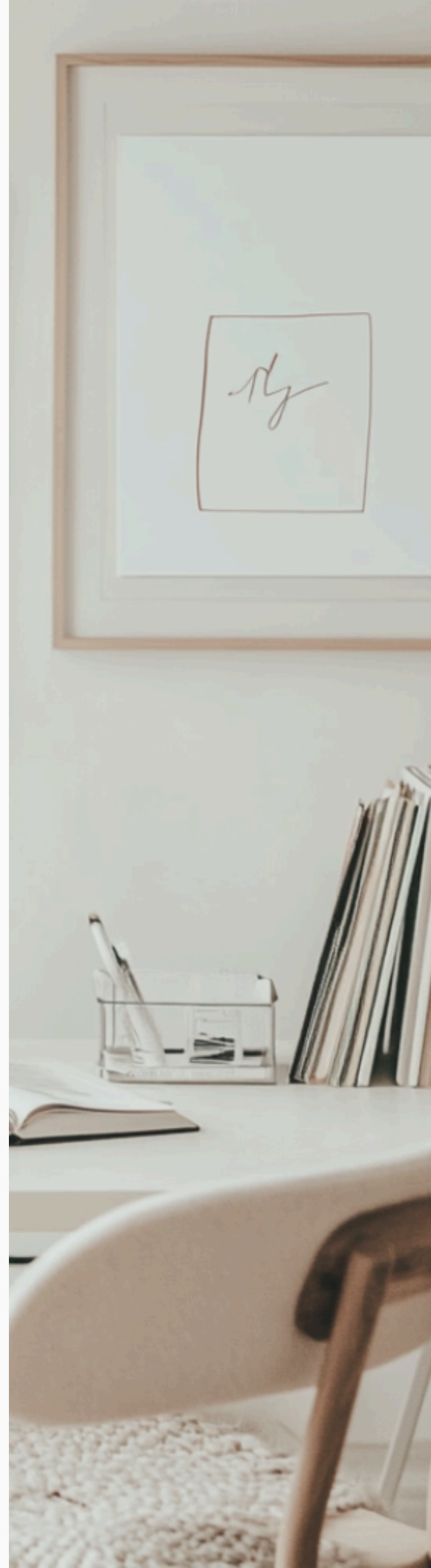


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5 Ways to Take Something Off Your Mental Load

1. Create one “Mom Command Center”

Choose ONE place for the information you constantly need.

School calendars. Activities. Appointments. Meal plans. Things you need to buy.

It doesn't need to be an elaborate organization system.

The goal is simply:

“I know exactly where to look.”

That's a win.

2. Keep a “Not Now, But Soon” list

You know those random thoughts that pop into your head?

Emily needs new sneakers.

I need a teacher gift by Friday.

We're almost out of sunscreen.

Instead of trying to remember them, keep one running list on your phone.

Your brain wasn't designed to be your family's storage system.

3. Make a recurring “Things We’re Running Out Of” List

Toothpaste. Kids' socks. Shampoo. Birthday cards. Printer paper.

Keep a running list somewhere everyone can access.

When someone opens the last one, it goes on the list.

Future You will be very grateful.

4. Create a 10-minute Sunday Reset

Don't organize your entire life.

Spend ten minutes asking:

What's happening this week?

Check the calendar, school emails, activities, appointments, meals, and anything unusual the kids need.

Ten minutes of preparation can prevent a surprising amount of weekday chaos.

5. Stop creating systems you won't actually use

The best organizational system isn't the prettiest or most elaborate one.

It's the one you'll still be using three weeks from now.

Simple wins.

5 Tiny Ways to Make Your Kids Feel Special

These don't require balloons, matching pajamas, elaborate crafts, or staying awake until midnight.

Put a surprise note in their lunchbox

It can be as simple as:

I love being your mom.

You've got this today!

Can't wait to hear about your day.

Thirty seconds for you.

Potentially the best part of their lunch for them.

Celebrate completely ordinary accomplishments

Not everything needs to be an award-worthy achievement.

Finished a hard book?

Tried a new food?

Helped a sibling?

Finally learned how to zip that stubborn jacket?

Celebrate it.

Childhood is made up mostly of ordinary days.

Start a ridiculously easy family tradition

Friday night popcorn.

Saturday morning pancakes.

Birthday breakfast in bed.

First-day-of-school ice cream.

Traditions don't have to be elaborate to become treasured memories.

Leave a surprise somewhere unexpected

A note on the bathroom mirror.

A joke inside their backpack.

A drawing under their pillow.

Little surprises feel magical to kids precisely because they're unexpected.

Try one question that isn't "How was school?"

Try:

What made you laugh today?

What was the weirdest thing that happened?

Who did something kind today?

What would you change about today if you could?

You may be surprised by what you hear.

5 Ways to Make School Days Easier

Create a lunch “Favorites List”

Sit down with your child once and make lists of foods they'll actually eat:

Mains | Fruits | Veggies | Snacks | Extras

Now when you're staring into the refrigerator at 7:13 a.m., you don't have to invent lunch from scratch.

Pick one from each category and move on.

Keep a school “Emergency Stash”

Choose one bin or drawer for the things you always seem to need at the last minute:

Poster board.

Glue sticks.

Markers.

Index cards.

Gift bags.

Tissue paper.

Printer ink.

Because nobody needs a 9 p.m. Target run for poster board.

Make tomorrow’s “weird thing” visible tonight

Library book?

Instrument?

Show-and-tell item?

Special shirt?

Put it directly in front of the door or on top of the backpack.

Do not trust Morning You to remember.

Morning You has enough going on.

Keep a few teacher gifts ready to go

Gift cards + cute printable holders = instant thoughtful gift.

Perfect for teacher appreciation, birthdays, thank-yous, and the moment your child announces:

“Oh yeah! Tomorrow is my teacher's birthday!”

Give every backpack a home

Hooks. Baskets. Chairs. It doesn't matter.

Choose one predictable landing spot.

Removing even one daily version of “*WHERE IS YOUR BACKPACK?!?*” is worth it.

5 Ways to Keep Kids Busy Without Creating More Work for Yourself

Keep a restaurant rescue kit in your bag

A few crayons, paper, and reusable activity prompts can buy you precious peaceful minutes while everyone waits for food.

Create an “I’m Bored” jar

Write simple activities on slips of paper:

Build the tallest block tower you can.

Draw a silly monster.

Find five blue things.

Make a blanket fort.

Choose one whenever boredom strikes.

Make car rides into games

Try:

Find something red.

Spot every letter from A to Z.

Would you rather live underwater or in space?

Invent a story about the car in front of us.

No supplies required.

Rotate instead of buying

When toys haven't been seen for a while, they can suddenly feel new again.

Put some away.

Bring them back later.

Congratulations—you just went shopping in your own house.

Keep one “emergency activity” hidden

Choose something your child loves and only bring it out during those moments when you *really* need it.

Waiting rooms.

Long dinners.

Travel delays.

Important phone calls.

Novelty is your friend.

5 Ways to Make Things Special Without Making Them Complicated

Choose ONE special thing

Not five.

For the first day of school, maybe it's a sign.

For Valentine's Day, maybe it's a cute card.

For Halloween, maybe it's a special treat tag.

One thoughtful detail is enough.

Use the "Would they remember this?" test

Before adding another task to your plate, ask:

Will my child actually remember or care about this part?

If not?

You have permission to skip it.

Let someone else do the designing

You do not earn extra motherhood points for creating every tag, card, sign, activity, or planner from scratch.

Use the template.

Download the printable.

Take the shortcut.

The thought still came from you.

Keep a tiny celebration stash

A few balloons.

Birthday candles.

Cute gift tags.

A roll of ribbon.

Blank cards.

Having a few things ready makes spontaneous celebrations much easier.

Remember what they're really going to remember

They probably won't remember whether the birthday banner coordinated perfectly with the cupcake toppers.

They'll remember:

Mom celebrated me.

Mom left me little notes.

We always did that funny thing on Fridays.

Home felt special.

That's the magic.

And it doesn't have to be complicated.



Your New Rule

Thoughtful doesn't have to mean time-consuming

You don't need to do everything.

You don't need to make everything.

And you certainly don't need to reinvent the wheel every time your family needs something.

Find the shortcut.

Use the shortcut.

Then spend the time you saved on the people you were doing it for in the first place.

That's Why I Created Sparkle Paperie

I'm a busy mom too.

I love doing thoughtful things for my kids.

I also don't have hours to spend designing every lunchbox note, activity card, gift tag, checklist, or family tool from scratch.

So I started creating the shortcuts I wanted in my own life.

Sparkle Paperie creates beautiful, practical printables and digital tools that help make everyday motherhood a little easier—and childhood a little sweeter.

They're designed to give you that thoughtful, homemade feeling... **without all the work.**

Ready for your next shortcut?

Browse Sparkle Paperie and find something that takes one more little task off your plate.

[**SHOW ME THE MOM-LIFE SHORTCUTS →**](#)

Because you have better things to do than spend your evening making a printable from scratch.



A little something just for you!

Ready to make mom life a little easier—and childhood a little sweeter?

Enjoy **20% off your purchase at the Sparkle Paperie Etsy shop** with code **SPARKLE20**.

Stock up on cute, practical printables designed to save you time, simplify the little things, and help you create thoughtful moments without all the extra work.

Use code SPARKLE20 at checkout to save 20%!

[SHOP NOW](#)