

CONSIDERING A CAREER AS A PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZER

BROUGHT TO YOU BY TIME TO ORGANIZE LLC

Would YOU make a good professional organizer?



You were born to organize because:

- a.) you came out of the womb with a label maker in hand (figuratively speaking, of course!) and were sorting Barbies and/or Legos by kindergarten
- b.) your parents and teachers always commented on your top-notch organization skills
- c.) your bedroom was always neat as a pin
- d.) you see other organized people and wish you could be more like them

Your organizing experience consists of:

- a.) a volunteer organizing gig at a local charity, plus helping numerous family and friends
- b.) helping a handful of family, friends, or coworkers organize their homes or office spaces
- c.) organizing your own house
- d.) pretty much nothing, but it sounds like a fun idea

When you walk into an organizing-related store (The Container Store, Office Depot), you feel:

- a.) like you're in your second home — you could totally work there!
- b.) excited, but a little overwhelmed with all the neat, new products
- c.) neutral — you grab what you came for and get out soon
- d.) stressed out, and you can't wait to get out of there

The idea of teaching/transferring organizing skills to other people:

- a.) is exactly what you want to do with your life and makes you feel full of purpose
- b.) is exciting, although it will be a new experience for you
- c.) is pretty scary but you'll give it a try
- d.) is not what you had in mind when it comes to professional organizing

The first thing you'd do when you meet new or prospective clients is:

- a.) warmly introduce yourself, ask a few questions, and then listen to their story
- b.) let your eyes wander around the space, eager to dig in
- c.) grab your label maker and start sorting
- d.) stand frozen in fear, not sure where to begin

When you think of organizing a client's office or home, you:

- a.) realize that the place to begin is by listening to the client and then creating a plan of action
- b.) realize that there are many ways and a variety of products to get it in order
- c.) want to dig right in and start making changes as soon as you can
- d.) don't really know where to begin and hope the client won't be there to watch you

Your empathy level for people who live in a state of disorganization:

- a.) is extremely high, and you can't wait to listen, learn, and share with your clients
- b.) is high, and you're excited to the possibilities
- c.) is moderate, because you're not quite sure how people can get themselves into such messes
- d.) is low, because these people are just lazy

The idea of running a small business:

- a.) energizes you — you've started thinking up business names, writing website copy, and more
- b.) is intriguing — you've always wanted to be your own boss
- c.) is not what you had in mind — you'd rather work for an established organizing company
- d.) is completely off your radar

When you make a mistake:

- a.) you realize that it's a learning opportunity and take note to learn more on the subject
- b.) you feel badly and hope you can do better in the future
- c.) you worry that maybe you're not good enough
- d.) you give up — what's the use?

You want to be a professional organizer because:

- a.) organizing is your cherished gift and you have a passion to help people improve their lives
- b.) you want a new career that is flexible and allows you to use your strengths and experience
- c.) you're good at organizing and think you could help people organize their stuff
- d.) you like the organizing shows on TV and heard professional organizers make good money

GIVE YOURSELF

4 points for every A

3 points for every B

2 points for every C

1 point for every D

35-40: Yes, you were Born to Organize! You are ready to become a professional organizer. Consider hiring a business coach to give you the accountability you need and answer any questions that are stalling you out. [Recommended: The Time to Organize 8-Week Jump-Start E-Mail Coaching Program.](#)

26-34: Organizing is a passion for you. This will be a great career move. Keep gaining experience by working on organizing projects for family and friends. [Recommended: Read Born to Organize and then consider some phone coaching sessions with Sara Pedersen to keep you motivated and on the right path.](#)

16-25: You're good at organizing your own stuff. But you'll also need to be good at transferring those skills to other people. [Recommended: Read lots of organizing books \(including Born to Organize\), visit stores that sell organizing products, check out organizing-related websites, and practice, practice, practice! Be open to feedback from those you help organize.](#)

15 or less: This may not be the career for you. The organizing shows you've seen only show part of the story. [Recommended: If you still are considering a career as a professional organizer, do some practice jobs and get the honest feedback of your "clients."](#)

CAREER GOAL-SETTING PLANNER

Why do you want to become a professional organizer?

What are five steps you need to take in the next month to get started?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

List three "practice clients" to help improve your organizing & teaching skills:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

How much time will you commit to launching your business?

Day(s) of the week _____ How much time per day? _____

Who could you contact to learn more about the organizing field?

1. _____
2. _____