

## Back-to-School Tips and Tricks

Summer is coming to a close and it is back-to-school time once again. Regardless of if you get a jump start on shopping for your children or if you wait until the last minute, follow these tips and tricks to save money and time!

### ○ **Make a List**

Start by finding the supply list assigned to your child. Compare this list with what you already have laying around your house or left over from last school year and make a final list of what you need to shop for.

### ○ **Get a Jump Start, or Don't!**

It's definitely nice to check school supplies shopping off your list of summer to-do's, and it is especially nice to do it as soon as you can to have plenty of options while the shelves are still fully stocked. However, not everyone has the time to get their shopping done early, but no need to stress! That could work out to your benefit! If your child doesn't absolutely need some of their supplies on the very first day of school, hold off on buying and wait for back-to-school clearance sales to pop up!

### ○ **Shop Early in the Week**

The closer it is to the school year, the less likely stores will restock school supplies, but the best time to go do your shopping would be the beginning of the week. Stores typically restock their products over the weekend, and new sales tend to begin on Sundays, so stop by a store early on a Monday or Tuesday before there's nothing left!

### ○ **One-Stop Shop**

Target and Walmart are perfect for finding everything that you need in one place. Need chalk and colored pencils? Check! Need new outfits and shoes? Check! Need snacks and lunches? Check!

### ○ **Utilize the Dollar Store**

Prices for school supplies skyrocket at this time of year, but prices at the dollar store will always remain a dollar! Take a trip to one near you to stock up on pencils, basic calculators, and more to save money.

### ○ **Buy in Bulk**

If you know that your child's go to snack is pretzels and if you know you have enough space in your pantry, it is worth visiting a Costco and buying in bulk. The same goes for if you are the class parent and are in charge of purchasing a year's worth of tissues and paper towels for the classroom.

### ○ **Use Your Rewards**

Having a rewards card at stores like CVS provides you with a coupon haul every time you check out, including money back rewards. Save these coupons and use them to purchase school supplies. Next thing you know you did your back-to-school shopping for free!



## ○ Price Match

Many stores offer price matching, and back to school shopping is the best time to take advantage of this. Here are a few stores that offer this:

- [Staples](#)- Will match a competing store's price, PLUS they will give you an extra 10% off
- [Target](#)- Offers price matching if the lower priced item is found at one of the stores on their [select list of competitors](#).
- [Office Depot/Max](#)- Will honor one price match per guest if item in question is found in store or online at Staples, Target, Walmart, Best Buy, or Amazon.com
- [JCPenney](#)- Will tack on an extra 5% discount for a price match brought to the store's attention within 14 days of purchase.

## ○ Use Your Phone

When in a store, check prices on Amazon's app to see if the store raised a product's price for the back-to-school season. If you find a price difference, order the item from the app on the spot or request a price match instore at their customer service table.

Do you have too much to do at home to be able to focus on helping your kids prepare for the new school year? If so, we can help.

ARRANGED will implement a plan to declutter and professionally organize your home in a functional, aesthetically-pleasing way. This way, you can spend more time getting work done and taking your kids shopping and less time being stressed!

Click [here](#) to learn more about ARRANGED's organizing services, then read our [Testimonials](#).

[Contact us](#) to schedule a complimentary phone consultation.

