12 Things Nobody Tells You About De-cluttering

1. It's more emotional than physical
2. Every item in every drawer has a story
3. Your energy will run out before your stuff
4. Gifts are the hardest to let go
5. Guilt weighs more than any box
6. You'll keep things "for the grandkids" who don't really want or need them
7. You'll find your younger self in old clothes
8. The "someday" pile is really a "never" pile
9. Nobody is coming to do it for you
10. 20 minutes of concerted effort a day will beat a whole weekend of procrastination
11. You'll breathe more easily and feel freer in clearer, emptier rooms
12. Its not about having less. It's about surrounding yourself with things you need, use and love for the person you are today

If you've not started preparing for the contractors coming into your home to take your kitchen down to bare concrete before intalling new units, additional electrical sockets, ventilation system, *etc.* ask yourself where you are going to put everything? Now is the time to take stock and act. It will take longer than you think.



Save Money, Go Greener

Small changes to daily habits can bring about much needed cash in your pocket whilst helping to protect everyone from the negative impact of global warming. Adopting them is a win, win for everyone.

1. If you turn down the thermostat by just one degree you probably won't even notice the change, but it can chop up to 10% (or £60 a year, on average) off your heating bill.
2. Make sure to always turn off the lights when you don't need them and you could save £15 on your energy bill.
3. Chargers still draw electricity from sockets when plugged in, even if phones and laptops aren't connected on the other end. It's called seepage so it's worth remembering to unplug them or switch them off at the wall.
4. Some of the biggest energy zappers can come from surprising places. As a rule of thumb, if an electrical device has a clock, its likely to use more energy than you might realise *e.g. a microwave can cost around £16 a year on standby.*
5. Why wash at 40°C? Whilst 60°C is hot enough to blast germs, 40°C isn't hot enough to kill stubborn bacteria, but it's also not cool enough to be a cheaper option. Where you can, wash clothes at 30°C, which will save you roughly £34 a year.

If you adopt all of the above and they become part of your daily routine you're looking at a saving of at least £120 per year. So don't work harder, work smarter and keep more of your money in your pocket to spend on what you would like rather than what you need.

This Day in History - 14th October 1066

Harold II, England's final Anglo-Saxon King, was killed at the Battle of Hastings in Sussex after being defeated by William the Conqueror's invading Norman-French army.

William's coronation as King of England took place on Christmas Day, 1066, at Westminster Abbey. During his reign, French became the language of the king's court and, gradually blended with the Anglo-Saxon language, to give birth to modern English.



Winter is not far away and it can be a challenging time for many people across Birmingham, with seasonal illnesses putting extra pressure on households and health services.

Flu is a serious illness that can lead to complications for older people, young children, pregnant women and those with long-term health conditions.

Getting your flu vaccination is one of the simplest and most effective ways to stay well and help protect the people around you. If you're eligible for the NHS vaccine, don't put it off. Book your appointment with your GP practice, pharmacy or NHS service today and give yourself the best protection for the winter ahead.

For more information and to check your eligibility, visit the NHS website or contact your GP practice.

Recycle, Reuse, Repurpose

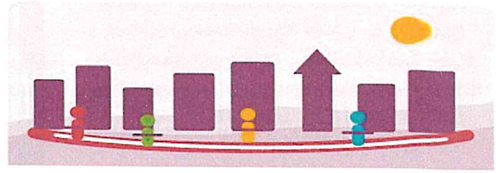
Old credit cards make great scrapers - perfect for getting spilled food off the floor, and stubborn stuff that doesn't wipe easily off counters, like spilled pancake batter. Also try them for scraping the inside of the microwave, and for scraping baking sheets.

They're also great for scraping ice of windscreens.

City Housing

Birmingham City Council

OUR ANNUAL TENANTS' CONFERENCE 2026



PLEASE SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday 24 November 2026
10.30am - 2.30pm

Alexander Stadium, Perry Barr

- Launch of the Annual Tenants' Report 2025/26
- Celebrate and thank our Volunteers
- Meet Guest Speakers & Stakeholders (To be confirmed)
- Lunch & Refreshments provided

TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE
Contact Your Tenant Management / Participation Officer (TMO/ TPO)

Your Voice • Your Community • Your Home



Working with delivery partners, BCC have supported the installation of 560 lamp post charge points and 288 fast and rapid charge points.

These sit alongside a broader network of charge points provided by other operators across the city, helping to make EV charging increasingly accessible.