



## Pre-Christmas Toy Declutter activity sheet

**The best way to find out what we really need is to get rid of what we don't.**  
**Marie Kondo**

We all know that toys are the number one offender of Christmas clutter! So, it's a good idea to get on top of it before the next influx of gifts enter your home. But how and where do you start? We enlisted the help of decluttering superhero Anita Birges from Mise en Place to unpack how you can calm your house and your mind before the big day!

When deciding what to keep and what get rid, of ask yourself these 3 questions:

- Is this toy broken?
- Has it got missing pieces?
- Is it no longer played with?

*If you answered yes to any of those questions, then it is time to get rid of it!*

Also ask yourself...

- Is this toy played with every day?
- Is it looked for when it goes missing?
- Does it affect my child in a positive way?

*If you answered yes to any of those questions, then it is a keeper!*

**Here are Anita's top 5 tips to declutter your kids toys before Christmas:**

1. Don't involve your kids if they are under the age of 5. You know what they do and don't play with and can make the decision about whether the toy should stay or go.
2. Have a plan for what you will do with the toys you no longer want. For example, hand them down to other family members or friends with kids or donate them.
3. Break down the project into bite sized pieces, that way it won't be so daunting. For example, one day you could go through the dress up items, another day it could be cars and trains, and, on another day, it could be all the LEGO!
4. Have on hand heavy duty laundry bags and/or boxes to help you remove the toys from your home. Plastic bags are not always strong enough and can rip easily.
5. This one is super important... get your decluttered toys out of your home within 24 hours! This is to avoid the kids rummaging through the bags and boxes and making all your hard work a waste of time!!!

To learn more about Anita's organising tips, visit her website [Mise en Place](https://www.misenplace.com.au).