

From time to time, it's helpful to just use what we have. Plan menus using what's stored in your freezer or pantry. Create something crafty from the fabric in your cupboard. Put together a brand new outfit using clothes already in your closet.

When I do this, I'm always surprised at the money I save—and what I find in the back of the pantry, the bottom of the closet, and hidden in the freezer.

Go ahead and get creative using what you have!

U: Use what you have

“Ahh! I can’t find a quote from *Living Simply* for this topic. Seems like I should have talked about this in the book. Oh well, hindsight is 20/20!”

—What I left out of *Living Simply*

I don’t know about you, but my stash is pretty full. Whether it’s what I have stocked in the freezer, craft supplies stored in the basement, clothes in my closet, or canned goods in the pantry, I have a lot of things “on hand.”

No wonder my life—my house or my closet or my pantry—often feels a little too full! I keep adding to it without using up what I have, without making room for what ends up coming home from the store.

Why then do I often feel the need to go buy something more, something new when I could make do with what I have?