

Toy Rotation Checklist

KickOutClutter.com — Print and check off as you go.

Keep play fresh and clutter low by rotating toys in and out. Kids rediscover old favorites, and cleanups get faster.

Supplies

- Clear bins or tubs with lids
- Labels or masking tape + marker
- Laundry basket for gathering scattered toys
- Zip bags for puzzles, sets, or small parts
- Shelf/cabinet space to store off-cycle bins

Quick Rules

- Rotate toys every 2–4 weeks depending on interest.
- Keep 1–2 open-ended toys always available (blocks, dolls, art).
- Donate or sell toys that haven't been picked in 6+ months.
- Involve kids in choosing a few to keep out permanently.
- Label bins simply: Animals, Cars, Puzzles, Pretend, Mixed.

1) Gather & Sort (15–20 min)

- Collect all toys into one space; use laundry basket if needed.
- Sort into sets/categories: cars, dolls, puzzles, pretend, mixed.

2) Purge & Donate (15–20 min)

- Pull broken, incomplete, or outgrown toys for discard/donation.
- If no interest for 6 months, move to donate/sell pile.

3) Bin Setup (10–15 min)

- Label bins clearly (Animals, Cars, Puzzles, Pretend, Mixed).
- Use zip bags for small pieces; store like-with-like.

4) Active vs. Storage (10–15 min)

- Keep 3–4 bins active; store the rest in a closet/garage.
- Always leave 1–2 open-ended toys accessible year-round.

5) Rotation Day (15–20 min)

- Swap 2–3 bins in/out; announce 'new toy day' to kids.
- Quick wipe/clean toys before storing away.

6) Involve Kids (optional)

- Let kids help pick what stays or rotates; builds ownership.
- Frame as 'surprise box' or 'new play theme'.

7) Storage Area Tidy (10 min)

- Stack bins safely; label facing out for quick grabs.
- Keep heavy bins low; lighter on top.

8) Track Favorites (ongoing)

- Note bins that are always a hit; refresh weaker bins with swaps.
- Use a small notepad or phone note to track interest.

9) Seasonal Adjustments

- Rotate in seasonal toys: water play, holiday sets, outdoor gear.
- Store off-season items safely labeled.

10) Reset & Repeat

- Mark rotation date on calendar every 2–4 weeks.
- Use reminders so it becomes an easy system.