

tip talk

organizing, cleaning, recycling & more



5 things to do with...tennis balls

- 1 FLUFF LAUNDRY** Put a clean one in the dryer with towels, comforters or down coats to fluff them right up.
- 2 CHILDPROOF FURNITURE** Cut a tennis ball in half, or cut an X-shaped slit in it, and use it to cover sharp corners.
- 3 CREATE SLIDING FURNITURE** Cut in half and place under the feet or corners of heavy furniture to move it without scratching the floor.
- 4 HIDE THINGS** Got a ring or money you need to temporarily hide? Slit a tennis ball and insert the goods. Just make sure no one uses it.
- 5 GIVE YOURSELF A MASSAGE** For a foot rub, place a ball on the ground and rotate the sole of your foot over it. Or put three tennis balls into a sock, knot it and use it to knead your muscles. *Aaahh!*

gotta have it!

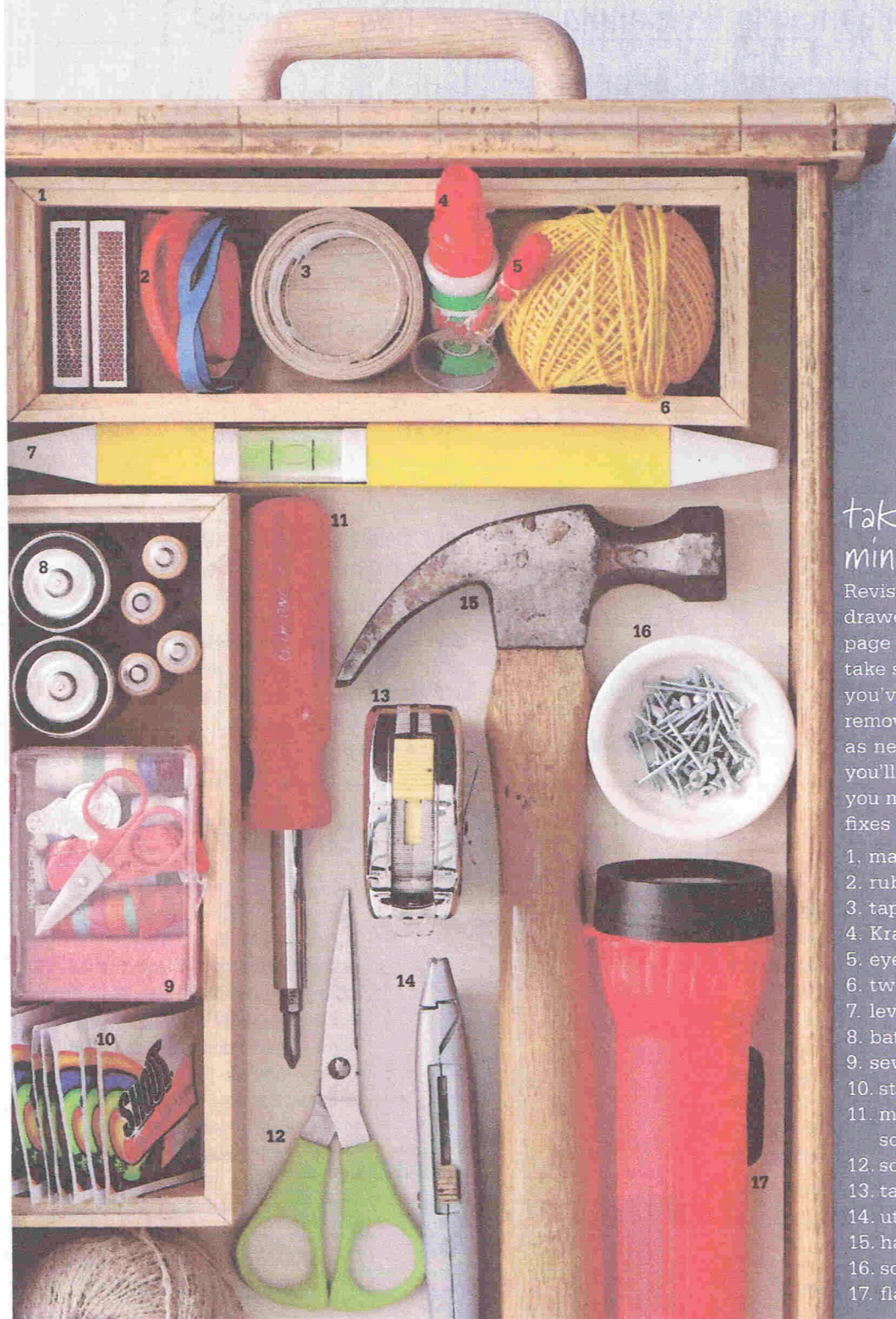
Summertime means one thing: infinite opportunities for your crew to lose their flip-flops, towels and—most annoyingly—your favorite Tupperware. Who can afford that? Mabel's Labels can withstand the washing machine, microwave and UV rays, and you can order iron-on and sticky labels for everything from clothing to plastic containers. There are dozens of designs. Pack of 50 iron-on clothing labels, \$21; mabelslabels.com



UH-OH! QUICK FIX

"LEFTING" THE CEILING FAN Before you hit the air conditioner power button, take a look at your ceiling fan and make sure that it's not inadvertently heating up your home. The blades are at an angle: During summer, they should rotate *counterclockwise*, blowing air down to cool you. In winter, they should go *clockwise*, circulating hot air in the room. To change rotation, turn off the fan, find the little switch on the side (usually below the blades) and flip it.

solutions



take 15 minutes

Revise your junk drawer. Using this page as a reference, take stock of what you've got and remove or add items as necessary so you'll have everything you need for quick fixes around the house.

1. matches
2. rubber bands
3. tape
4. Krazy Glue
5. eyeglass repair kit
6. twine
7. level
8. batteries
9. sewing kit
10. stain removing pads
11. multihead screwdriver
12. scissors
13. tape measure
14. utility knife
15. hammer
16. screws and nails
17. flashlight