

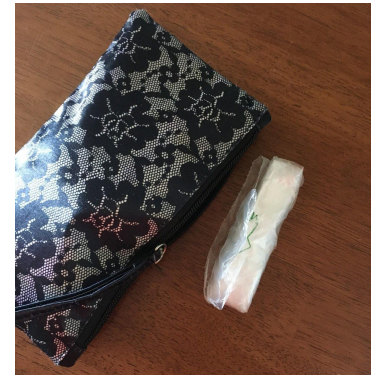
# Mom Hacks

*Small Creative Ways to Use What you Have*

*Prepared by MommyK*

## Diaper Bag Hacks

1. **Poop Sacs:** Yes, the ones from the dollar store are only a dollar, but these ones are free! What's the secret? I reuse the veggie bags I get from the produce aisle. I plan on doing this until I can purchase the reusable mesh veggie bags. Then I will move on to my stash of milk bags (which are actually better for cloth diapers). I just collect the bags from the fruits and veg that don't make a mess (usually peppers, oranges, etc), roll them up tight and put them in my little zipper bag. Easy.



2. **Homemade Diaper Wipes:** Because we cloth diaper during the day, it didn't make sense to spend money on replacing disposable wipes when we are doing laundry anyway. To make our washable wipes I took flannel fabric and cut into squares, rounding out the edges. Using my sewing machine, I stitched around the edges so they would not fray in the wash. We took a wipes container and filled it with water. BAM! We had reusable wipes. If I'm on the go, I can put a few wipes in a ziploc bag or reusable container. After BabyK started getting a little older, I added a squirt of baby shampoo and a drop of essential lavender oil to the water mix. This is a great easy to use up scrap material or repurpose old clothes.



## Kitchen Hacks

1. **Oatmeal Bar:** This is likely my husband's favourite. We purchased a few glass storage containers from the dollar store, but you could easily repurpose any glass/mason jar. Next we filled each one with a topping that he enjoys on his oatmeal (keeping things that need refrigerated in the refrigerator). It is much more cost effective than buying the instant oatmeal packs, and if I want to make a quick trail mix or energy bite ball, everything I need is right there.



2. **Compost Bin Liners:** Now this one is not an original idea. A friend of ours showed us this hack when we first moved to the city and I've been stuck on it ever since. Instead of buying plastic compost liners (which not all recycling programs accept), we line our compost bin with newspaper. Simply fold as if you were making a hat, but instead, turn it upside down in the compost bin. I find the bin requires cleaning less frequently and does not get clogged up while trying to dump in the green bin.



## Organization Hacks

1. **Bread Tags:** These little guys have a surprising amount of uses. My favourites include; labeling cords that are plugged into the power bars and labelling key chains.



2. **Organizing Bins:** I am a little miserly by nature, so If I can buy something once and use it many times, I'm pretty chuffed about it (not to mention so are the backed-up recycling facilities and the environment). Mushroom containers and ground beef trays help me stay organized in the freezer on “the cheap”.



3. **Cord Organizers:** Again, this one is not my own, and although it is now popular over the internet, I learned this one from our MommaK. You can use an empty toilet paper roll to keep loose cords intact and close to the electronic. Good news is, it won't snap overtime like an elastic and they are completely customizable! I got out my scrapbook gear, wrapped the rolls in pretty paper, added labels and voila!

