

Better Homes and Gardens.

the garden issue

Cottage Garden Plan p. 78

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Spring it on

The buzzy, blooming, busy season is here. Who can afford to lose any time—even to daylight savings? We asked time-saving experts how to get that hour back.

GIFT GRAB

What's good for one 6-year-old is good for...a lot of other 6-year-olds. Martha MacCallum, coanchor of America's Newsroom on Fox News Channel, shops smarter for great party gifts for her kids' friends. "I buy three of everything," she says. "A good gift is a valuable find."

UNDER COVER

Morning exerciser and pro organizer Beth Zeigler of Bneato beats one motivation-sapping monster: "I sleep in my workout

clothes. When the alarm goes off, I can jump out of bed and be on my way."

ROAD SHOW

An event planner in Los Angeles and mom to three, Rachel Hollis logs lots of time in her car, which she calls a "rolling pantry." "Water, snacks, wipes, even coloring books," she says. "I can entertain, feed, and soothe everyone without having to run back in the house or stop on the road."

PREP SCHOOL

Today's mom, Natali Morris of MommyBeta does what she can to have time to elaborate meals for her family. "With the help of my slow cooker, I'll make a big chili or stew on the weekends," she says. "It saves me from cooking much during weekdays, and ensures healthy meals are ready to be heated and served."

OFF THE HOOK

BHG deputy art director Kylee Fitzmanic has a strategy to save

precious morning minutes. "Sunday night, I pick outfits for every day of the week for me and my daughter and hang them on separate hooks," she says. "Our clothes are always ready to go."

CREDIT REPORT

Shopping online can save time, money, and effort. Barbara Reich, author of *Secrets of an Organized Mom*, has an auxiliary tip: "Memorize the number of the credit card you use most. You'd be surprised how much time you save by not reaching for your wallet."

EARLY BIRD

Busy mom and Better TV cohost Audra Lowe gets up 30 to 60 minutes early each day to e-mail, pay bills, and prepare for the day ahead. "I savor this uninterrupted silence," she says. "And by the time I leave for work, I feel like I've already accomplished so much."

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ONE FOR ALL

Divide and conquer errands with ease, thanks to free list-sharing apps. That's what tech blogger Natali Morris of MommyBeta does. These were created for multiple users, so others in your household can always access the most up-to-date honey-do items. Try Cozi and Astrid, great for group tasks and lists, or Orchestra To-Do, which also lets you chat with others in real time.