



They Love Me . . . They Love Me Not

Prepared Binder – Home Edition is a great way to show your family you care.

How do you show love? Do you write sonnets, buy flowers and chocolates, leave love notes by the cereal, or are you a little more down to earth? Do you show your deep feelings by taking out the trash, folding the laundry and making sure there is milk in the fridge? As nice as love notes and chocolates can be, and don't get me wrong they are great, sometimes love is a practical matter.

For most people, love is in the details. Some of those details are fun, like birthdays and anniversaries. Some of those details are useful, like the day of the month we pay the maid. (Don't I wish!) Some of those details can be downright boring, such as the routing number to the checking account. However all of the details are important. By organizing these details we show our loved ones we care. How does this work do you ask? Here are just a few examples:

Prepared Binder – Home Edition organizes:

- Medical Records
- Financial Records
- Insurance Policies
- Birth Certificates
- Memorial Plans
- Legal Paperwork
- And Much More

1) Leaving your loved ones without vital information is mean. Yep, I said it, this is mean! If you have worked hard to memorize every piece of important information we congratulate you, but what happens when you aren't around to share it? You could be on a cruise when the water pipes in your bathroom break. What is your daughter going to do if she doesn't know the number to your insurance agent? Being the keeper of all information is just a bad idea. If you don't believe me, ask the fish swimming around on your bathroom floor.

2) Knowing about finances empowers you and your loved ones. When I was a young girl my grandmother had a friend who lived across the street. She was a sweet lady with a dotting husband who did everything from holding the door, taking out the trash, parking the car, and balancing the checkbook. It was his

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- Individuals
- Families
- Seniors
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goal that she would never have to worry about anything. (I know he sounds like a prince!) One day we received a phone call no one wants to get. Her prince of a husband had died without warning. She was left with no idea how to park her own car or balance her own checkbook. In fact she didn't know where her money was or how much she had. She was devastated at the loss of her husband and overwhelmed by her insecurity.

Don't leave your loved ones out of the loop. If you are the keeper of the checkbook, then make sure you document your account numbers and financial institutions.

3) Having a plan shows you care. Everyone dies. Yes it is true. Hopefully that won't happen to you for a really long time, but it will happen. Do you have your life organized well enough that someone else could tie up the loose ends? Think hard and answer honestly. . . Have you written out all of your personal information? Does your spouse or children know where the money is or what bills you pay? Do they know what you want for a funeral and if you want to be buried or cremated?

I hope you have never seen a family fight after a death in the family. I promise you it isn't pretty. I have never once seen a case where the possessions of the dead were worth ruining the lives of the living. If you love your family, plan it out. Get a will or trust, tell people about your wishes, write it all down and leave your family a tangible token of your love, your preparation.

Now that we have discussed examples of how you show your love to others, let me remind you to love yourself as well. Organizing this information will take it off your to do list and add it to your accomplishments. We all have our information somewhere. Now is the time to love yourself enough to put it in one place.

Prepared Binder – Home Edition is a great way to prepare information. Check out our web site at www.preparedbinder.com for links to helpful government web pages and preparedness information. If you have any suggestions on how to organize, put a comment on our forum page. We would love to hear your ideas!