

Is Britain a Nation of Hoarders?

According to recent research by furniture maker Hammonds, 95% of respondents admitted they held on to clutter and unwanted items long after they have outlived their usefulness. Crammed into the attic, the spare room, the wardrobe, or under the bed, it seems the average Briton accumulates more than a TON of unwanted items.

Are you a hoarder?

Do you hate to throw anything away 'just in case' it might come in handy one day? Do you have a drawer full of rubber bands and paperclips? What about old clothes – do you hang onto them long after they've faded from the fashion radar? Or are you just hoping you'll be able to squeeze back into those smaller sizes someday?

Apparently many of us are simply terrible at throwing things away – and we happily hoard just about anything, from last year's Christmas cards, old school uniforms and PE kits, to cages for pets that have long deceased. As a nation it seems we're reluctant to part company with our clutter, and men are just as guilty of this trait as women.

The Hammonds survey produced a list of the top 10 things we like to hoard. Top of the list was 'clothes we don't wear'. Although men tend to hold on to old clothes because they just don't like throwing them away, women are more likely to hold onto them because they hope they will someday be able to slim back into them.

Here is the top ten list:

1. Clothes we don't wear
2. Books we've read
3. Clothes that don't fit
4. General odds and ends
5. Shoes we don't wear
6. Clothes that have gone out of fashion
7. New clothes we've never worn
8. Old mobile phones
9. Sports equipment we no longer use
10. Out-of-date computers

Take a good look around your home and ask yourself: are you a hoarder?...

