

WEB FIND

# When Life Gets Hectic, Find Your "Blis"

By Jennifer Maciejewski

**W**E'VE ALL BEEN THERE. You missed Johnny's soccer game because you wrote it down on your home calendar, not work. You paid a bill a few days late because it got mixed in with a pile of health insurance statements that were lying around waiting to be filed. You head out to do your grocery shopping, only to realize when you walk into the store that you left the list taped to the fridge.

Hoping to purge the clutter of everyday life, countless people repeatedly make the same New Year's resolution: Get organized. Despite their best efforts, by February, organized chaos has once again taken over. Why? It's often as simple as lacking an intuitive organizational system that works how they work.

That was the case for Tracy Coe and Tricia Kolwicz. "My sister and I both felt that we were pretty organized in our work life, but when we got home, things were quite the opposite," Coe says. "We've been taught that you can have it all, but at the end of the day, sometimes you feel like you're pulling your hair out trying to make it all happen."

Though the sisters relied on online systems to organize their work lives, they couldn't find a comparable comprehensive system to make their hectic home lives run smoothly. So, the duo created their own: Blis, Best Life Information System.

With Blis, users can take all the information necessary to their lives and store it online, so that they can find it when they need it. "It's not just a virtual filing cabinet," Coe says. "I can get onto my Blis every day, and everything I need is in one central location, from my to-do list to my address book to my children's immunization schedules to vacation checklists."

Blis is organized in seven sections: Calendar, To Do & To Plan, Home, Health, Activities, Address Book, and My Choice. Though the six main categories feature easy-to-use forms and organized subsections, My Choice offers the most flexibility, giving subscribers a place to store information that doesn't fit neatly in the other categories.

In addition to the countless features, Blis is technologically organized, too. It works seamlessly with both Macs and PCs, and users can log in using virtually any browser or Internet-ready device, from laptops to iPhones. To ensure that subscribers' private information stays private, Blis relies on the latest security protections, including a two-password login system. Plus, Blis users maintain total control over how much of their sensitive information they store online. Some choose to stick to the basics, like their doctor's contact information and appointment dates, while others input their complete medical history, including copies of lab and X-ray results and statements of insurance benefits.

Though most opt to use Blis as a paperless organizational

system, roughly 20% of subscribers prefer a hybrid approach, combining Blis' online functionality with its traditional paper-and-notebook organizational tools. "I love to do the calendar on the computer, but it's nice to have multiple copies of it," says



### ACTIVITIES

user Kris Grimm, a mother of five from Louisville, KY. "I print out a copy for my car, for my refrigerator, for my husband to take to work. I know you can use Blis on an iPhone, but since I don't have one, it's nice to have my calendar right there with me at all times."

"The more time you can sit and play with Blis, get used to it, and use it the way it's designed, the more you will get out of it," she continues. "I don't know if I use it to its full capacity, but the things that I have discovered, I really have found that they help me feel more organized and together with what our family is doing."

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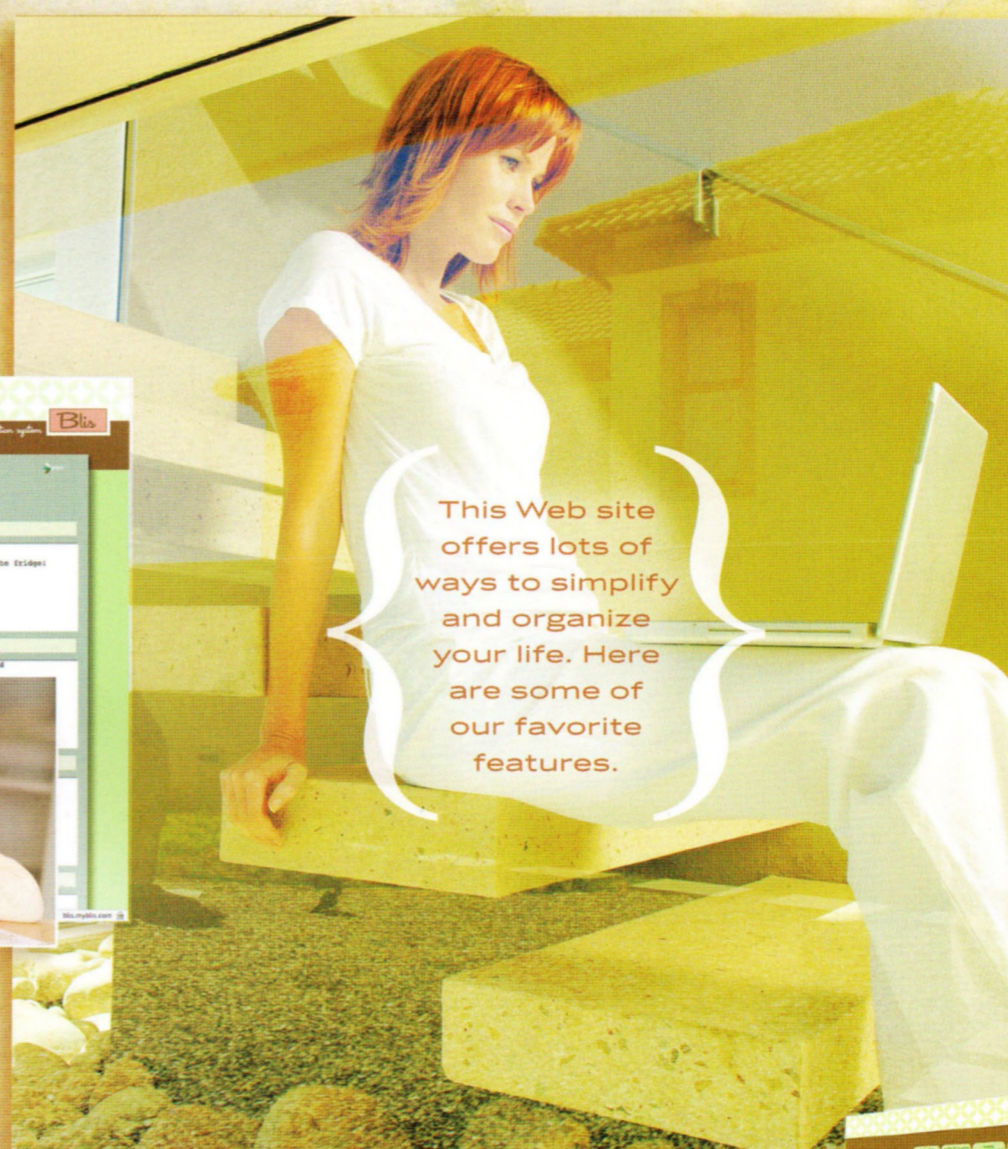
**CALENDAR** This cool calendar feature lets you share your schedules and key dates with invited guests. It's perfect for publishing family, meeting and team schedules, and keeping everyone in the loop.



### HOME

We found the ability to keep track of things like vehicle maintenance schedules and appliance service records very helpful. You can include notes and corresponding attachments, like emailed or scanned receipts, warranties, and other paperwork.

This Web site offers lots of ways to simplify and organize your life. Here are some of our favorite features.



**HEALTH** A great way to keep physician contact information, immunization records, and other medical history accessible wherever you may be. You can also make info available to family members and friends in case of emergencies.

**TO DO & TO PLAN** We loved the recipe storage options here. With enough detail, you can do things like select all meals for the week's menu, and Blis automatically notes the necessary ingredients onto a printable grocery list.



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