



# BROOKLYN\_BORN

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## The Unchecked Task

Monday, March 21, 2016

My status says that I'm checking off tasks one by one by one. That is true and prompted by Spark Guy's Ultimate Challenge to extend spark principles to other areas of our lives.

Now a confession:

There is one task unchecked. Not only today, but this week, this month, this year, actually since November. More about this later.

Some tasks are easy for me. Some not so much

Exercise - I do this every day. I LIKE movement.

Music - I've got a lot to work on for upcoming concerts. I enjoy this and I don't want to sound a sour note among my fellow second sopranos

Language Study - Since discovering my roots, relatives and ancestral villages, I've been learning Slovak well enough to get around the country on our own. Tough language, yet a challenge I enjoy especially since it brings back memories of my grandmother's conversations with my Mom and her siblings.

Cooking/grocery shopping - Not a favorite, but since joining Spark it has become more interesting and I stubbornly want to stay in maintenance. Yeah, I work on good choices every day and log the results. Not always easy, but Spark keeps me honest and accountable

Paperwork - Sometimes it piles up, but the bills all get paid on time and my data driven mind keeps good records.

Housework - Ugh! Do it, I must. Enough to keep a healthy environment, keep away the Board of Health and have us wearing clean clothes. The heavy stuff? DH does that. I've trained him well.

That unchecked task?

DH & I travel to Europe a LOT (9 weeks total last year, 4 in October)

Most planning is done digitally, but a LOT is in one staging area - a unused area upstairs. When we return from a trip, a LOT is deposited in that same area. The stuff now covers the desk, the couch and has crept onto the floor. This is ridiculous! We're planning another adventure this summer - a continuous 6 weeks at least. I have GOT to start that task or at least make a dent in it.

You see why it's unchecked? I would rather blog about it than DO it.

There, now it's more than just a line on a list. Maybe this will help.

Note: I'm retired so fortunately I don't have to factor in "go to work" as one of my tasks. Of course, when we were working, there wasn't time for extended travel either.

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**PRNCSCUP1-2FULL**

Wondering if that task has been checked off by now? (4/25) Again, all I know in Slovak is cuss words! I'm glad I talked to my great grandmothers. My 2nd cousin is doing a family history and she had no idea about my Great Grandma's (BaBa) trip on the ship/boat. I asked a lot of questions!  
1871 days ago



**KRISSEY82**

It sounds as if you're doing so much; I can understand having something 'unchecked.' You'll get to it when you're ready, and I bet you'll feel great afterward! I need to do quite a bit of sorting/organizing myself, and because it's such a big project, it gets pushed aside. Good luck!  
1898 days ago



**ANGIEN9**

Organization helps with everything, even weight loss or maintenance!! Get busy on that travel info that is piling up!! Good way to relive those great memories you are making.  
1899 days ago



**SWEETNEEY**

that decluttering can be a challenge  
1901 days ago



**GINIEMIE**

My retirement was to be many trips, it's not. My list are never ending and like you certain tasks are easier to blog about than to do...Come on your staging area and my office and master closet...were to get cleaned and cleared when I finished the court report 3 weeks ago. However I only turned in the court report last week, but my poor office and closet are still untouched. I still have not tracked a full week of eating. Healthy or un-healthy I need to track. You are ahead of me, but I think we both need to tackle the dreaded spaces.



Sinuses are on the way to being tamed, time to ATTACK!!!!



1904 days ago



**TERI-RIFIC**

I love language study. Good for you for learning your ancestral tongue! Vel'a stastia with the mess.  
1905 days ago



**CD4114015**

I can also totally understand all you say here. MY only problem is that when I have that "undone task" that I keep putting off...it is on my MIND almost 100% of the time. UGH drives me nuts but that is my mind that does it.



I also expect you to come back soon and say that it is DONE. I bet you do! Something about talking about it makes us do it!



1905 days ago



**MARYJEANSL**

I am more than impressed by all that you \*do\* get checked off. It's way more than I do. Even my housework is always behind...if I get one nasty job done, another is already overdue, that kind of thing. And I am absolutely never on top of the dishes. There are always, always at least three or four things in the kitchen sink.



Good luck getting that one last task done. Can you break it into smaller increments?  
1905 days ago



**CD13202979**

I can totally relate. There is at least one task that is not checked off on my to do list. Each day that I tackle something that was previously untouched is a victory in my book!  
1906 days ago



**SUBMOM2**

How wonderful that you and your husband are planning Another adventure. You'll come up with a plan for the travel clutter. In the meantime, if it's not taking over the house, I wouldn't worry about it.



1906 days ago



**IAMSUNNYHOWARD**

Unchecked items! LOL.. You need to think of that as your travel room and now that you have declared your intent- we can nag you- LOL!!

If you decide you need to get rid of something, take a picture of it for the memory. In our 4 years of traveling, we now have over 55,000 picture, and some GREAT memories! All on disk, so we don't have to store the paper!

HUGS!!

1906 days ago



**ONEKIDSMOM**

Somehow what MUST be done, gets done. The "nice to haves"... not so much! The "I love

doing this"? Well, more likely to happen once the "MUSTS" are done.

1906 days ago



**DOVESEYES**

Lots of great ideas here to think on. :)

I will look forward to sharing the trip with you on SP.

1906 days ago



**JEANKNEE**



Bet this blog will help! Expect we will be hearing from you before too long and you'll be telling us that you've begun to tackle the task. Yup. I do ...

1906 days ago



**1CRAZYDOG**

Good luck w/the organizing.

1906 days ago



**LIVEDAILY**

Hmmm...creating something tangible from travel memorabilia is a hobby of mine. I've created a number of scrapbooks which feature not only photographs, but also maps, travel brochures, post cards, written anecdotes, and other items. Do you know what you're going to do with everything that you have? Maybe it's time to make to-do lists so you can get started!



1906 days ago



**DR1939**

I have drawers of travel stuff that I don't want to get rid of but just have never organized. And boxes of pictures and folders. And maps of every European country and a few Asian or African ones. And maps of cities. And videos. And on and on. Just seeing them brings back wonderful memories.

1906 days ago



**MILLEDGE2**

Laughing WITH you in complete understanding!

1906 days ago



**PHOENIX1949**

Now that you've put that task out into SparkWorld, it seems you are one step closer to getting it started, which may have been the underlying purpose of writing about it. I wish my health had not gotten in the way of planned retirement travels but I'm glad we did as much as we did while working (no children so fewer schedule conflicts). Perhaps you should change this one item from a check to a gold star.



1907 days ago



**MISCHAKEO**

How fun that you are taking long trips.  
1907 days ago



**AQUAGIRL08**

I have a few of those unchecked tasks myself. They are always on the edge of my mind so I really should just do them and get it over with. Good job on working down your list and getting things done!  
1907 days ago



**POLSKARENIA**

I do those unchecked tasks only if I follow my to-do list in order. Somehow, that makes it easier.  
1907 days ago



**GLORYB83**

I have had an unchecked item for a year now. I better pull all plugs and get after it. If not me, then who?



1907 days ago



**WALLAHALLA**

I love to travel. Wish I had as much opportunity to as you do.  
1907 days ago



**PHEBESS**

But think of all the fun memories of your travels that are in that pile of stuff to be sorted and cleaned and placed in wherever they go!!!! Yes it's drudge work, but also fun because you'll pick up a shoe or shirt or book and remember wearing it while hiking along a river in, oh, Budapest or something!

Set aside a few hours each day, armed with a thermos of tea or coffee, and convince yourself it'll be fun - and it will be!

(Seriously, I enjoy planning my 20-ish piece wardrobe each year by going through my spreadsheet of what's in each box - mentally putting together the outfits - and then making a list of items and which boxes to get out of storage. Also making a list of what to wash and put back in boxes. Maybe I'm anal, but really, I like to imagine what I'll wear at Machu Picchu, or Ipanema beach, or on an Amazon cruise. Makes the drudge work much easier!)  
1907 days ago



**HARROWJET**

I have an unchecked item that is similar to yours.  
1907 days ago



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