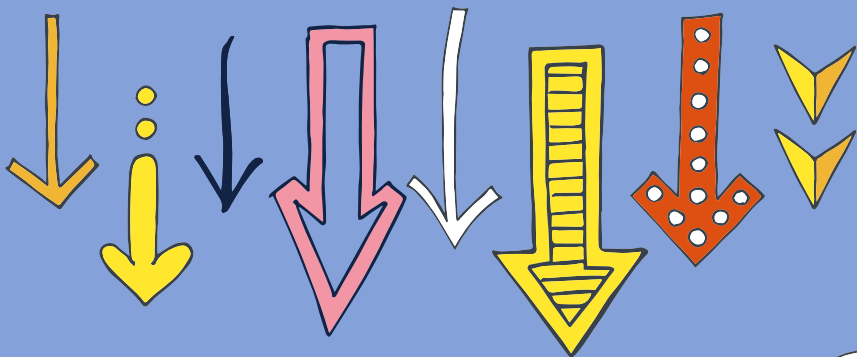


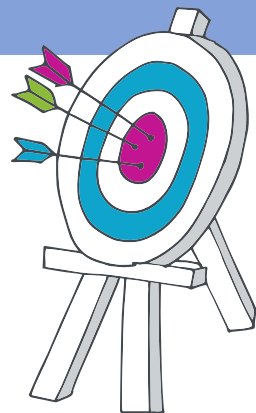
Rightsizing



Have you thought about **Rightsizing?**

Rightsizing is the process of understanding **how you live in your home**, uncluttering your life, and then moving to a new space (often smaller than your previous one) in which you can fully utilise each room, reduce your monthly outgoings, improve your health and wellbeing and increase social connections.

Rightsizing is a step forward for older people. This involves moving into an appropriately sized home in which they could live a longer, more independent life in a more manageable home.



Downsizing versus Rightsizing



What's the difference between downsizing and rightsizing? **Nothing really** - it is just that the word 'downsizing' often has a negative connotation attached to it, as people tend to think of downsizing and less square footage as a limitation.

Rightsizing, on the other hand, is the pursuit of **living big in a smaller space by creating the most out of every square foot** - and making sure you actually use and enjoy the space you have.

While household sizes have been shrinking over the past several decades, the space we occupy has been increasing. Surprisingly, only about **30 percent of a home's space is used 90 percent of the time**. The majority of time people spend in their homes is in one of three rooms: the kitchen, the living room or the bedroom.

Most often, people downsize their home because of a change in circumstances. Rightsizing, however, is a customisation of your space to your life. It implies growth and freedom; adjusting perspectives and aligning your space to suit your current life's needs.

Benefits of Rightsizing

The benefits of rightsizing reach **far beyond clearing years of clutter** out of your home and life. Many people choose to rightsize for retirement, when they're no longer working a full-time job and have the energy to unclutter their lives.

In addition to the benefits above, rightsizing your home and moving to a smaller space can **save you money**. Many homes in the UK were built in the pre and postwar years and require real investment to make them energy efficient and accessible if mobility becomes an issue. But with a UK Housing Crisis these homes are suitable for young families and could **unlock the housing market**. Rightsizing could actually be helping your own family members to get on the housing ladder.

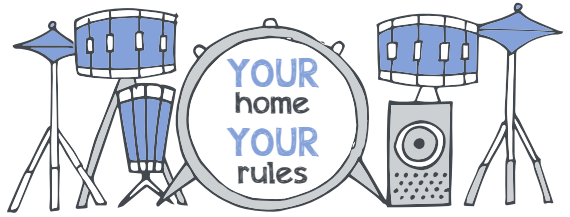




What holds us back?

Are your possessions holding you back from experiencing the best of life? If you save everything, is anything truly special?

With a fresh perspective about all the "stuff" in your life, you'll find it's **easier to break through emotional roadblocks** that can keep you from letting go. Start with some simple tips and approaches to reducing clutter, so you can **enjoy more freedom and fun.**



Finding your perfect home



A lot of Rightsizers want to remain or move **near to children and extended family**, while others are looking for a **change of scene** and the **new lease of life** that moving home provides - whatever the reason, the area that you choose has to be right for you.

You may want to **create a list of what matters most to you** - proximity to community, shops, clubs, amenities, parks, garden space etc.

Rightsizing for all tenures

If you are a home owner, you could consider smaller, more manageable homes in your area by checking out websites such as **Rightmove** or contacting your local estate agent.

MSV and other housing associations offer a **'Housing Options for Older People'** Service that can assist and you could check out the **EAC website** for a range of options in your area.

You could consider **Shared ownership** or **Older Persons Shared ownership** which is an equitable form of equity release, where you buy a share in your new home (25%-75%) paying a smaller rent on the balance, but releasing cash from your homes.

Check out the **Help to Buy Website** for all new developments.

If you rent your current home from a housing association, many will **welcome an opportunity** to help you rightsize. We will work with you to find your perfect home, often incentivising this to help you into a more manageable, affordable home. In turn this will create another home for another family in need



Helping Hands Service



Even at the best of times, moving home can be a stressful experience. As we get older, it can be especially difficult. MSV offers a **dedicated officer** with support service tailor made to the needs of the customer which can include the following:



- **Sort, declutter, recycle, dispose** - Sorting through possessions and decluttering may be the most difficult part of the whole moving process. Many possessions will be of sentimental value, and even the idea of moving them may trigger strong emotions. MSVs Helping Hands Service can step in especially for those that have no family or friends close by to help.
- **Drawing up a plan** of the new homes and working out where furniture will go to help plan what needs to be decluttered and sold.
- **Transfer services and inform them of a change of address** - MSV's Helping Hands Service can help with utilities, post office disconnections, reconnections, council tax, GP, DVLA etc.



Flourish Homes Removal Service



We have partnered with a specialist removal firm to **assist with packing and removals** and we will support residents with an individual moving plan to help with costs such as removals and carpets.

Please check you **New Development** details for criteria.



Flourish Homes Exchange Scheme

MSV has a **part exchange scheme** for those freeing up family properties within a certain criteria.

Please check out the property details of your new home, to see whether this applies.



For further information, please call **07876 841973**

