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January 15th, 2009 in [Featured](#), [Productivity](#)

Innovative Paper Planners (and more) from WeekDate



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For any number of reasons, some people prefer [paper](#) to electrons for keeping track of their schedules, to-do lists, and other organizational needs. If you're one of those people, you simply have to check out the products available from [WeekDate](#).



WeekDate makes one of the most innovative paper planners on the market, their namesake [WeekDate Weekly Planner](#). The WeekDate is available in a number of attractive, stylish covers, but what really sets it apart from other paper planners is it's accommodation for recurring events. The three-panel design allows you to list recurring monthly events on the top panel, recurring weekly events in the bottom panel, and one-off daily events in the middle – which means you don't have to re-enter that monthly doctor's appointment or that weekly status meeting every time you flip a page in your planner. The efficient design and clear layout make it easy to see everything at a glance, so you can quickly find available times for new meetings or see what's up next on your agenda. (\$34.95)

The WeekDate system is also available as a [wall calendar](#), which would make an excellent addition to a would-be organized family's kitchen wall. (\$34.95)

WeekDate has just announced a new product that appeals to the lifehackists in me, the [I Need From Pad](#) (or "INF" for short). The INF is a tabbed shopping list, so you can easily create and add to separate lists for, say, the [grocery](#), the home improvement store, the kid's school clothes, and the pet store – or wherever else you find yourself needing to shop on a semi-regular basis. Pages are glue-bound, like a memo pad, so they can be removed easily to take just the pages you need when you're headed to a particular store – leaving the rest intact. (\$9.95)

I'm less impressed by WeekDate's [What Did I Wear When? Pad](#), which allows you to record your clothing choices for various events so you can avoid showing up next time in the same outfit. It looks incredibly functional for the task it's designed to do, but I'm not sure I see the need for it. Then again, anyone who knows me knows I'm not exactly a fashion maven – I do my best to wear clothes that more-or-less match, but being seen in the same outfit more than once isn't really on my "to-worry-about" list. More fashion-minded people may disagree – perhaps the What Did I Wear When? Pad finally scratches an itch you've lived with all your life. (\$13.95)

(For a different take on the What Did I Wear When? Pad from someone who *did* find it useful, check out the review from [Right Brain Organizing](#).)

In the interest of fair disclosure, I should mention that WeekDate has been a sponsor of one of Lifehack's contests, the [Spread the Love contest](#) we held last February. But I'm not promoting them here because they've been a sponsor – they became a sponsor because we love them! Lifehack has been singing the praises of the WeekDate system since well before last Valentine's Day; Lorie Marrero [wrote them up](#) almost a year earlier, saying "WeekDate is one of the most creative things I have seen in a while."

So give [WeekDate](#) a look. It's not too late to pick up a calendar for 2009, and it's never too late to get your [_____](#) organized.

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Prefer Paper Planners? 3 Best Calendars You've Never Heard Of

Professional Organizers are often called upon to help our clients choose the calendar that is best for their needs. Many times, even though people are very digitally-oriented in their work, they still prefer having a paper calendar. Paper planners provide the benefit of immediate gratification—there is no waiting to boot up or fumble around with "toothpick typing." You can just write something in and keep going. People also enjoy being able to carry other papers inside the planner, such as receipts and airline tickets and the like.

Lots of people are familiar with the [FranklinCovey](#)® planners, [Day-Timer](#)®, or [Day Runner](#)® brands, but there are other paper [calendars](#) out there that deserve mention as well.

WeekDate

One of the common drawbacks of using a paper calendar is having to write recurring events repeatedly, and then, of course, you have the hassle of erasing and updating all of them when something changes. One calendar has changed all of that: [WeekDate](#) is one of the most creative things I have seen in a while. You write in all of your monthly recurring appointments, all of your weekly recurring appointments, and then all of your specific day appointments on different folded-in "flaps" of the calendar itself, so that you can view them all at once and have no need to rewrite things.

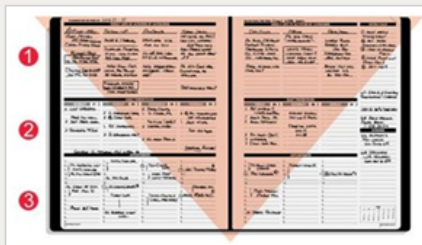


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Planner Pads

Another paper planner that gets rave reviews is the [Planner Pad](#). They have been around for 30 years and they offer a six-month guarantee on their product. They have a unique design that provides a funnel of tasks and activities on a two-page view of the week, starting with higher-level projects, then daily activities, then daily appointments. The Planner Pad really helps people manage lists better in conjunction with their daily schedule.



Whomi

The [Whomi](#) (as in "Who, me? Organized?") helps people who are managing multiple schedules, such as a mother with her various children's activities. You can track your own schedule along with 3 other people, such as two children and a spouse. It provides an easy-to-read [color-coded view of the week](#) for tracking each person's whereabouts and activities. They have even made perforated corners so you can tear off the corners of previous weeks and tab over to the current week quickly. They have a checkbook-sized planner, a larger planner, and a wall calendar, all with this same color-coded, multiple schedule format.

Some people will always prefer an electronic calendar such as Outlook, but it's nice to know that we have more creative [paper](#) solutions available for those who prefer a low-tech option.

Lorie Marrero is a Professional Organizer and creator of [The Clutter Diet](#), an innovative, affordable online program for home organization. Lorie's site helps members lose "Clutter-Pounds" from their homes by providing online access to her team of organizers. Lorie writes something insanely practical every few days or so in the [Clutter Diet Blog](#). She lives in Austin, TX, where her company has provided hands-on organizing services to clients since 2000.

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