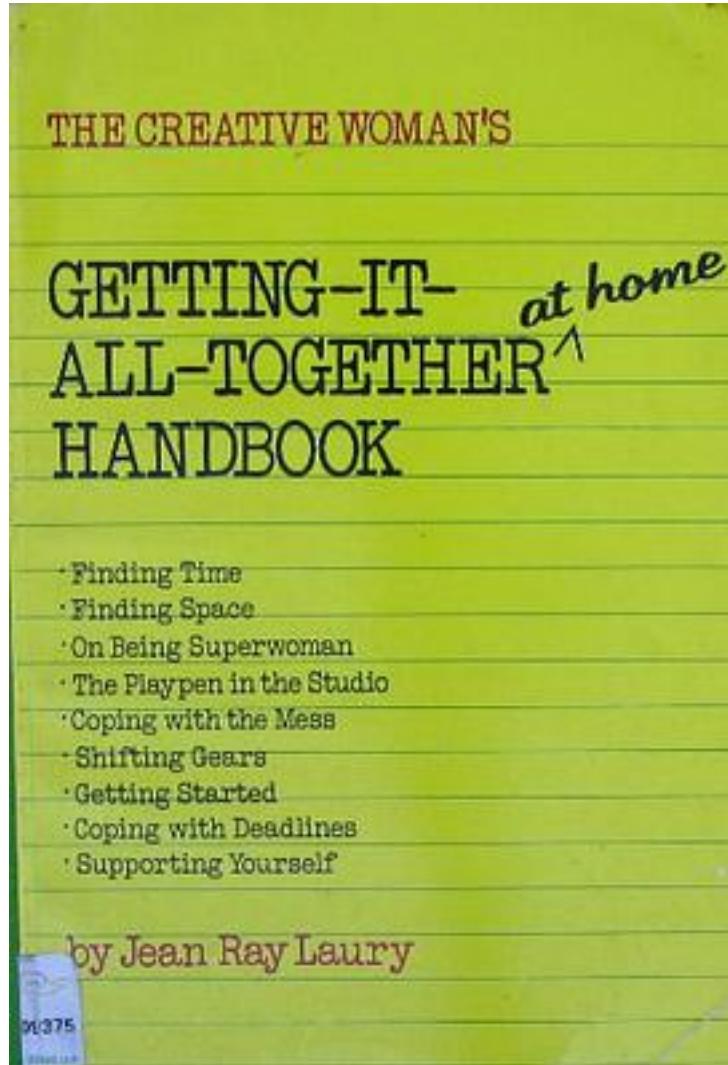


# The Creative Womans Getting-It-All-Together Handbook



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Introduction<br> There is a lot of sifting and stirring going on in kitchens today and not all of it goes<br> into the muffins. Priority-shifting has prompted many women to shut the door to<br> the laundry or pantry and open the door to a studio. A diminishing concern about<br> the brightness of their washes allows more time for their creative work. One result<br> of this stirring and sifting is a blending of roles</4> a mixing of ingredients which may<br> not always be compatible.<br> The combination of roles in which a woman performs as artist/mother/home.<br> maker/wife requires a tremendous amount of \"getting it all together.\" How does<br> she manage? She finds no set formulas. While no one woman knows everything<br> about getting it together</4> every woman knows something about it. Obviously</4> by<br> pooling our \"somethings\" we have access to a lot of information and an opportunity<br> to discover some new perspectives on ourselves.<br> Abundantly creative women all over the country are producing work under varying<br> conditions and pressures. Some artists flower working full time in studios away<br> from home</4> but most of them create their work at the kitchen table with children<br> scampering underfoot</4> dinner simmering on the stove</4> and a husband observing<br> (somewhat apprehensively) the creative milieu.<br> What motivates the creative woman? Where does she learn to juggle her various<br> roles? Can she successfully combine a serious</4> professional career with homemaking<br> and child-rearing?<br> Here are responses from women of all ages</4> at various stages in their careers</4> who<br> have achieved differing degrees of success. Most are involved with fiber arts as well<br> as with teaching</4> designing</4> photographing</4> writing</4> or lecturing. Yet their combinations seem equally applicable to women in all areas of creative work which are<br> pursued individually. The painter</4> musician</4> poet composer</4> illustrator</4> or sculptor<br> will find much that pertains to her. The woman who manages any small business</4><br> publication</4> mail-order or free-lance work will also find parallels. Portions of the<br> book deal with the pressures on any working woman</4> whether she works in her<br> home or away.<br> Many fiber artists have contributed to this book in writing</4> through conversations<br> and in group discussions. Their willingness to share their experiences in an<br> open</4> perceptive</4> and honest way has been overwhelming and touching. It is their<br> purpose and mine to help other women find pleasure in meeting to some greater<br> degree their own creative needs</4> to help them recognize their alternatives</4> and<br> (perhaps most of all) to let them know that their problems and frustrations are not<br> isolated and individual</4> but are shared by all women who combine creative pursuits<br> with some of the more traditional woman's roles.<br>

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