

DESIGNING BIG IN SMALL SPACES

When it comes to interior design, every inch of space must contribute to a single, breathtaking experience. But as living spaces grow more expensive each year, homeowners need to be extra creative when utilizing every square foot.

TO PUT THINGS IN PERSPECTIVE, BELOW ARE SOME INTERESTING FACTS:

MILLENNIALS LOVE MICRO-HOUSING.

According to the **Census Bureau**, the number of single-person households grew **17%^[1]** since 1970.

APARTMENT UNITS ARE GETTING SMALLER.

A study conducted by **RENTCafe** and **Yardi Matrix** reveals that the average size of rental apartments shrank by **-8%^[2]** in 2016.

SMALL ROOMS GET EVEN SMALLER.

Studio apartments shrink the fastest – with a decline of **-18%** or an average of **504 sq. ft.**

THEY'LL CONTINUE TO MAKE MORE.

Populous cities like **New York^[3]** and **San Francisco^[4]** already have hundreds of micro-apartments available for rent. Others like **Miami^[5]**, **Seattle^[6]**, and **Los Angeles^[7]** are slowly catching up with more units being cleared for occupancy or undergoing construction.

MAKING MORE OUT OF LESS
Here are tips on how you can go small in space, but **BIG** in terms of design:

BEDROOM

USE A LOFT BED

You may already be out of college, but it's still one of the best, multi-purpose tools that can maximize space.

...OR AN OTTOMAN SLEEPER

If lofts are too preppy for your taste, opt instead for a convertible sleeper sofa. Not only do these beauties save space, they can also be positioned practically anywhere.

HAVE A LIGHT COLOR SCHEME

Light colors provide the illusion of space. They also cultivate a more relaxing atmosphere, which is why they are perfect for your bedroom.

BATHROOM

PUT SINKS AND TOILETS IN THE CORNER

In a small bathroom, anything sitting at the center is a huge obstruction. If possible, make sure sinks and toilets are situated in corners.

USE A SHOWER CURTAIN

Rather than using a glass door that swings in and out, use a shower curtain that can flow in any direction. In case you really want glass, choose panels that slide instead.

USE WIDER MIRRORS

Installing mirrors that stretch across the wall enables two or more people to use it simultaneously.

KITCHEN

MAGNETS WORK WONDERS

Using magnetic strips to organize your cutlery is a great way to save cupboard space. Magnetic racks can also be used on the side of your fridge for non-metal items.

USE PEGBOARDS

Pots, ladles, strainers, and everything else that can be hung maybe organized on a pegboard.

USE THE CEILING

Have excess pots and ceiling space? Then you may need to install a pot rack or two over your head.

PURCHASE MULTI-PURPOSE PRODUCTS

From over-the-sink chopping boards to all-in-one food processors, multi-purpose products are exactly what you need in an undersized kitchen

EVERYWHERE ELSE

HANG ARTWORK HIGH

To create the illusion of a tall ceiling, wall decorations like paintings, clocks, and other knick-knacks must be hung above eye level.

SLIDING DOORS ARE YOUR FRIENDS

These are perfect for small spaces since they don't require extra space to be swung open. If you have no budget for pocket doors, go for cheaper, more rustic barn doors.

USE LOW PROFILE FURNITURE

Going for low-sitting chairs is also another way to make rooms appear taller.

GO FOR SMART STORAGE

With a little creativity, you can turn anything into storage space – be it your bed, coffee table, or even old ladders. Also consider specialized storage ottomans for the perfect balance of function and visual fidelity.

LIGHTING CAN MAKE ANY ROOM BIGGER

The angle, direction, and brightness of lights can affect the visual size of any room. For example, soft light can make the room appear longer. It's also a good idea to use recessed lighting to save even more space.