

# Making Spaces

By deploying clever storage solutions and other strategies to create the illusion of space, you can transform the smallest of homes effectively and stylishly, writes Sandie Walker of Powder Grey

Small spaces? Think BIG. When it comes to lack of space and storage in our homes, we immediately assume that we need to move, find something bigger. However, this is not always necessary because with a few clever ideas we can address this lack of space without the need to move.

Neutral colours with transparent furniture/objects, for example, will enhance the feel of space, with the glass reflecting more light throughout the room. Portable pieces, such as (sofa) beds, free standing wall units, or islands in the kitchen, create mobile space rather than the dictated storage areas produced by fixed furniture. Add mirrors to create the illusion of floating space, giving the impression that the room is twice the size.

Clever, built-in storage to hide away your paraphernalia would work effectively either in the stairway, on walls, or on shelving. Using furniture with dual functionality would also work. For example, a bench doubling as a table or a wardrobe/cupboard that can be utilised as a work space and then closed away. Using screens, or concertina-style doors and walls, is also a great way to separate spaces without the need for permanent structures.

The hallway is generally the first room that visitors enter, giving them a first impression of your home. If the area is small, it is important that you make it a bright, inviting and clutter-free space. By introducing a few clever storage solutions –



Rustic storage coffee table, £450

such as using a console table to hide away small items, or a chest to store footwear, in no time at all your hallway will be transformed into a welcoming space.

For offices and/or bedrooms, utilise your wall space by installing custom, made to measure cupboards. This not only hides away the essentials but leaves space for your favourite accessories to be shown on display. This concept also applies to children's rooms, where finding a practical solution to storing toys after a day's play can be a real challenge – especially if space is tight and you want to keep things tidy.

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Stainless steel travel chest, £295