

Making a Home Feel Larger

Simple Design Choices That Help Maximize Space in Every Room

A home does not need more square footage to feel open and comfortable. In many houses and apartments, the sense of space comes from how rooms are arranged, how light moves through them and how much visual clutter is kept in check.

Designers and home organizers often point to a few practical changes that can make a noticeable difference. Furniture placement, lighting choices and storage habits can help rooms feel easier to use and more welcoming for daily life.

LIGHT AND LAYOUT

Natural light is one of the simplest ways to help a room feel larger. Keeping windows as open as possible during the day and choosing light window coverings can allow more daylight to spread through a space.

Mirrors can also help by reflecting light and giving a room more visual depth. Placing a mirror across from or near a window is a common approach in smaller living rooms, bedrooms and entryways.

Furniture also matters. Pieces that fit the room, rather than crowd it, can improve



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traffic flow and reduce the cramped feeling that comes from oversized sofas, tables or storage units.

CLEAR PATHWAYS

Arrangement is just as important as size. Pulling furniture slightly away from walls, when space allows, can create a sense of depth, while leaving clear walking paths

helps a room feel orderly and calm.

In multipurpose rooms, defining zones can make the area feel more organized instead of packed. A rug under a seating area or a small table near a reading chair can signal how the room is used without closing it off.

Vertical space is often overlooked. Shelving, tall bookcas-

es and wall hooks can move storage upward and free up floor area, which helps smaller rooms feel less crowded.

COLOR AND CLUTTER

Color choices can support the effect. Light neutral tones often reflect more light than dark colors, which can help walls recede visually and

make rooms feel brighter.

That does not mean every room must be plain. A few coordinated accents in pillows, art or rugs can add personality without overwhelming the eye.

Clutter control may be the most important step of all. Counters, tabletops and floors that stay relatively clear can make even modest rooms feel larger because the eye moves through the space more easily.

Storage baskets, closed cabinets and furniture with built-in storage can help keep everyday items nearby but out of sight. That balance can make a home feel both lived-in and tidy, which is a goal many homeowners appreciate.

Small changes often add up. A brighter lamp, a better furniture layout or a more thoughtful storage plan can help a home feel more open without the cost and disruption of major renovation.

For homeowners and buyers alike, these simple adjustments can reveal the comfort already built into a home. In communities across America, making the most of existing space remains a practical way to support easy, appealing everyday living.



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REAL ESTATE 101



HOMEWISE GLOSSARY

Visual Clutter: Visual clutter is the effect created when too many objects, colors or patterns compete for attention in one space. Reducing it can help rooms feel calmer, cleaner and more spacious.

AD SPACE